# WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 2 THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION JUNE 2004


## The Announced Plans for the Nuclear Submarine

by Drew Hendricks

The announced plans for the arrival of the nuclear submarine SSN 717, also known as Olympia, have evaporated. At a meeting Friday May 21st, Olympia City Council member TJ Johnson announced that the City would still hold the scheduled Tuesday hearing on his resolution to tell the Navy to keep SSN 717 away from our city. He also announced that the corporate media reaction to the news has resulted in many emails and voicemails directed toward him, at best questioning his patriotism – and sometimes "crossing the line into intimidation and threats." He asked the 50 people assembled to each bring 5 of their friends to the Tuesday meeting (May 25) at 7pm to speak to the issues raised by the community regarding our relationship to this nuclear submarine, the system it supports, and the system which supports it. In related news, the Port of Olympia has begun to receive United States military equipment for shipment to the illegal war in Iraq. So far, a load of trucks has been parked and is visible from the plaza near the water just south of the Port property. Something like 400 vehicles will eventually be gathered there, according to accounts in the Olympian. It is not known if these will include weapons of war, but artillery crates were mentioned by a public affairs person according to one participant in Friday's meeting. The loading was expected to take a week. The Port Commissioners meet every Monday at 5pm in the LOTT Board Room upstairs from Batdorf and Bronson, across from the Farmers Market near the Port. The commissioners are elected officials of a public entity not unlike a municipality, which holds our public property (The Port) in trust for us. It is appropriate that we ask them what they think they are doing letting the war come down the Streets of Olympia, in light of the obvi-

*(continues on page 9)*

## Olympia's Sister City under attack!

By Emma Pearlman

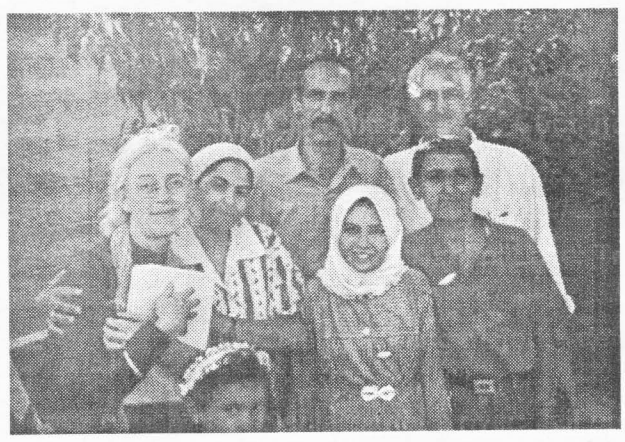
***In a nonviolent effort to resist the invasion of their town, several thousand peaceful protestors marched to the neighborhood of Tele Soltan on May 19. With no warning, Israeli soldiers fired missiles from helicopters, and began to shoot at the group of civilians.***



After trying for several days to reach my friends in the Gaza Strip by telephone, I finally got through.

"Hello, hello," I heard 11-year-old Sally say on the other end of the line. I breathed a sigh of relief. After making sure Sally and her family were okay, I asked to speak with her father, Abu Ahmed. The family lives in Rafah, a Palestinian city in the southernmost part of the Gaza Strip. Since Monday, May 17, Rafah has been under massive military invasion. On that day the Israeli army entered the city and the nearby refugee camp in tanks and Apache helicopters, and has been there since.

I lived in Rafah for two months in the summer of 2003, and witnessed the brutality of the daily military operations there.



*Craig and Cindy Corrie with the Nasrallah family at their home in Rafah. The Corrie's visited the family after their daughter Rachel was died defending the home from the bulldozer which ran over her — the home was later demolished by the Israeli military. It was Rachel Corrie who first envisioned and later inspired the Olympia-Rafah Sister City Project*

After I heard Sally yelling for her father, he took the phone. It was so good to hear his voice.

"Emma," he said, "things are very bad here in Rafah."

Abu Ahmed's family lives in the neighborhood of Hay Salaam, the same neighborhood where, in March, 2003, U.S. peace activist Rachel Corrie was crushed to death by a bulldozer as she stood in front of a family's home to prevent its demolition. Since then that family's home has been demolished, although no tunnels or weapons of any sort were ever found in or near it. According to the Palestinian Center for Human Rights, 105 Palestinian homes have been demolished since May 17, rendering 1,465 people homeless. Most of the families have been forced to leave with no prior warning, and many have been shot by soldiers while evacuating their homes.

When I stayed at Abu Ahmed's home, the Israeli military would shoot from tanks and towers at and around the house, sometimes for hours at a time. That was during the ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinian factions. Now

*(continues on page 9)*

## OMJP Statement to Olympia City Council Regarding proposed visit of USS Olympia to the Port of Olympia

May 25, 2004

Considering that:

The US Navy scheduled the fast attack submarine, USS Olympia, to visit the Port of Olympia, beginning on or about May 30;

The USS Olympia carries a nuclear reactor;

The USS Olympia is designed to carry Tomahawk cruise missiles equipped with nuclear warheads, which, at 200 kilotons each, are 10 times more powerful than the atomic bombs (20 kt) dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki;

The USS Olympia has experienced previous nuclear reactor leaks;

A radioactive leak in South Puget Sound waters could be devastating to human, plant, and animal life;

The City of Olympia, the State of Washington, the US Navy and the Department of Defense are unable to guarantee the safety of the citizens of Olympia and our environment;

The USS Olympia, similar submarines and Tomahawk missiles have been used in numerous attacks on military targets and civilian populations, for instance, in Iraq, Bosnia, Afghanistan and Sudan;

We believe that:

The USS Olympia, a weapon of mass destruction, is a threat to the public safety of the citizens of Olympia and to our environment, and in addition, represents an unacceptable militarization of our public space;

Therefore,

We, the undersigned organizations and individuals, while welcoming sailors, soldiers and other military personnel to our city, urge the Olympia City Council to adopt a resolution opposing the presence of the USS Olympia in the Port of Olympia.

The Olympia Movement for Justice & Peace - www.omjp.org

# WORKS IN PROGRESS

*Works In Progress* is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

**Submissions:**

Correspondence, articles, art, and photographs are always welcome. Please, when possible, put articles on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disk (text preferred) or via e-mail. Artwork and photos should be camera-ready/black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number.

Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

***If you don't see your issue being covered in Works In Progress, it's because you aren't writing about it! (Or aren't finding someone else to cover it!)***

Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295, <wip@olywa.net>

**Back Issues:**

Get your catalog of indexed WIPs below. Some back issues are available in the Timberland Library system. WIP is being archived on microfilm by the UW Library.


## WORKERS IN PROGRESS

| | |
|---|---|
| Dave Campbell | Hali Panneton |
| Chelsea Chase | Jeff Sowers |
| Sebastian Chase | Sylvia Smith |
| Renee Cruickshank | Pat Tassoni |
| Megan Davis | Robert Ross |
| Teresa Jennings | Drew Hendricks |
| Kayden | Tom Chenhall |
| Margaret Love | Jenni Minner |
| Sandy Mayes | David Lavender |
| | Patricia Vázquez |


**Mission Statement:**

"Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed."

**Anti-Discrimination Clause:**

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

**Governing Tool:**

The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

## WIP Schedule

**Submission Deadline:**

**Friday, June 25**

**Proofreading Meeting:**

**Call 956 1168 for more info**


**WORKS IN PROGRESS**
PO Box 295 Olympia, WA 98507
WIP@zhonka.net * www.olywa.net/wip



## Advertising Info

**W.I.P. ads at 493-2876**

| | |
|---|---|
| Inch Rate | $9.00 |
| Business Card | $35.00* |
| 5" X 5" | $144.00 |

**4 Months for the price of 3**

***Special Non-Profit Rates***


# Announcements, etc.

### *FRO Expanding!!!*

Free Radio Olympia (FRO), 91.3 FM, is proud to announce a greatly improved signal. We now reach much farther than before—to Evergreen and Olympia's Westside, Tumwater, most of Lacey, and all the way up Boston Harbor.

If you are in outlying areas and are still having troubles hearing 91.3 FM, we have some suggestions to improve your reception. We recommend switching digital tuners to "Mono". We also recommend making or buying a decent FM antenna. Old speaker wire is cheap and works great. Also try adjusting your antenna in various directions—the higher the better. If you still have reception problems please get in touch with us for more ideas, or listen over the internet on our web stream at www.frolympia.org.

FRO offers a wide variety of music, spoken word, news, political commentary and anything else we can think of, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Democracy Now! with Amy Goodman can be heard at Noon weekdays. Free Speech Radio News can be heard at 6pm weekdays.

If you like free independent radio in Olympia and want to contact us in order to donate equipment, music, money or to be a DJ, please call us at 705-9780, e-mail us at fro@riseup.net or visit our drop box in Last Word Books in Downtown. We welcome people to participate in a variety of other ways as well.

Tune in from 6-8 PM on Saturday June 5th for a special on-air conversation regarding different strategies and tactics for social change locally and globally.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

### *Oly Naked Bike Ride 6/12*

On Saturday June 12, in cities all over the world, bicyclists will ride NAKED to protest dependence on oil and to celebrate the beauty of our naked bodies — > Naked Bicycle People Power!

It has been suggested that the Olympia ride also protest the imprisonment of Jeff "Free" Luers, who is serving a 22 year sentence for burning a couple of SUVs and who also has a day of action on June 12th.

This event is open (free! uncovered!) to everyone and we would like your help with the planning - where will we ride? where will we gather for costuming and body-painting before the ride? where will we party after (gotta have a party after a naked bike ride!).

We are also interested in organizing workshops and educational events leading up to the bike ride. If you would like to network with others, please contact: Email nudebike2004@yahoo.com to express interest and get the latest. Check out the website at http://www.worldnakedbikeride.org/ More info on Jeff "Free" Luers case visit www.freefreenow.org

*(continues on page 9*

**BEFORE YOU FORGET, GET INVOLVED! (SEE BELOW)**


SOUTH SOUND GREEN PAGES

**South Sound's Monthly Environmental Newspaper**

Green Pages is a forum for individuals and organizations concerned about the integrity of our environment and the quality of life in our community.

**209 East 4th Ave., Suite 206**
**Olympia, WA 98501**
**(360) 786-6349**
**speech@olywa.net www.olywa.net/speech**


## Support Free Press

Get our special Edition Scrapbook

See this page

**Got WIP?**

## *Only You Can Keep WIP Going for Another 10 Year*

**Subscriptions:** ☐ Individual … $35 ☐ Low-Income …$15

**Merchandise:** ☐ WIP Flame LogoT-Shirt . . . $15 each; # _____ size(s)_____

☐ WIP 10-year Retrospective Scrapbook . . . $15 each

☐ Catalog/Index Listing…$1; back issues…$1/each

**Support Progressive Journalism**

*If the corporations aren't paying for it, then you have to!*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to:
**WORKS IN PROGRESS**
PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507

# JUNE 2004

# Books to Prisoners Olympia is back and needs your help

Books To Prisoners Olympia has recently begun its work again in the basement of an Olympia westside residence after more than a year of pause. The non-profit organization had struggled with finding a new place to house its library and organizing material until Olympian Malinda Lamm allocated over half of her basement to BTP last winter. Currently a full library is gradually being wrapped book by book and sent to prisoners around the US by individual request.

The project readily needs more steady hands and strong hearts to share the load. While new dynamics and goals are being formed among BTP volunteers who've prioritized collectivism over the directive coordination of a few, the work cannot possibly done in full by those who currently volunteer. Books To Prisoners invites WIP readers to be involved in book wrapping, organizational decision-making, fundraising, volunteer outreach, anti-oppressive group dynamic building, and overall smooth operation!

bookstoprisonersoly@resist.ca or call 352-5460 (ext 4)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth. Muhammad Ali | | **1** **2003**: Boston: Activists walk out of mass protesting Monsignor Roche's reminder of church's opposition same-sex marriages | **2** **2003**: FCC to allow greater concentration of media ownership **2003**: LEIU protesters are pepper sprayed/assaulted by Seattle PD | **3** **2003**: Surgeon General Carmona supports ban on tobacco products **2003**: Strike opposing Pres **Mugabe** freezes Zimbabwe economy | **4** **2003**: 8 Egyptian men detained declared innocent by FBI following 9-11 are still on national criminal index/ "no-fly" list | **5** **2003**: Ashcroft asks Congress to permit more suspects to be held indefinitely/extend death penalty to more terrorist crimes |
| **6** **2003**: TNT reports police chief candidate David Brame's assessment showed he wasn't best choice for job; 1 finalist scored higher | **7** **2000**: Fed judge orders Microsoft split in two **2002**: WA state denies Cowlitz new hunting boundary around traditional hunting grounds. | **8** **2003**: UFW begin hunger strike in Olympia to protest elimination of 45,000 seasonal workers from unemployment insurance | **9** **2003**: US weapons teams run out of places to look for WMDs; Bush says he is "absolutely convinced" proof will be found | **10** **2003**: Associated Press determines 3240 Iraqi civilians died in the US-Iraq war **2003**: 1st Canadian same-sex marriage | **11** **2002**: Sheriff Edwards chases suspended license suspect **2003**: WA gives Boeing $3 billion tax break to build 7E7s | **12** **2003**: CIA says Bush knew Iraq didn't try to buy Nigerian uranium **2003**: US wins year exemption for troops from war crimes |
| **13** **2003**: White House insists Iraq tried to get uranium from Nigeria **2003**: Israel says it'll assassinate Palestinian political leaders too | **14** **2002**: Jocelyn Elders delivers commencement address at TESC **2003**: N and S Koreas reconnect severed railroads across the DMZ | **15** **2003**: US begins operation "to gather up the people that we believe are threats to coalition forces and civil order" | **16** **2000**: DOE finds missing hard drives behind a copy machine **2002**: Democrats agree w/ overt action to overthrow Saddam | **17** **2002**: In year prior to collapse, Enron execs cleared $744 million **2003**: AMA endorses cloning for research purposes | **18** **2002**: Jesse Ventura will not seek 2nd term **2003**: Locke signs $3 billion to aid Boeing **2003**: Rumsfeld dismisses Iraqi resistance | **19** **2003**: Air Force drops charges against reserve pilots responsible for "friendly fire" deaths of 4 Canadians last year |
| **20** **1967**: Muhammad Ali convicted of violating Selective Service Act **2001**: Alan Greenspan says the tax cut won't do any harm | **21** **2003**: Nigeria pipeline explosion kills 105 in a local village **2003**: Israel says in order for peace Hamas must be dismantled | **22** **2003**: Iraq exports its 1st shipment of oil since US occupation **2003**: Sharon says Israel can still build Jewish settlements | **23** **2003**: EPA reports air pollution reduced 25% over last 30 years, but 40% of US waterways too polluted for fishing or swimming | **24** **2003**: Rumsfeld says will find WMD proof **2003**: Israel detains 130 men, women, teenagers for alleged Hamas involvement | **25** **2003**: Forest Glen owner found not personally/criminally responsible, but his business is guilty of operating illegally | **26** **2003**: Israeli military exonerates soldiers in Rachel Corrie's death **2003**: Supreme Court strikes down Texas laws banning sodomy |
| **27** **2000**: Republicans endorse measure allowing limited sales of food/medicine to Cuba **2003**: US cancels local Iraqi city elections | **28** **1971**: Supreme Court overturns draft conviction of Muhammad Ali **1997**: UN reports children are one-fourth of all AIDS deaths | **29** **1946**: To stamp out terrorism, British arrest 2,718 Jews in Palestine **2003**: Toronto gay pride march celebrates new marriage laws | **30** **1998**: US fighter jet fires missile at Iraqi anti-aircraft site after a radar signal was detected claims US authorities | Books To Prisoners wishes to thank Sound Builder's Resource for the donation of wood for volunteers to build new more efficient bookcases with builder Tibor Brewer. (Thanks Tibor!) | | |

# Opposing the Draft

by Glen Anderson

More and more people are concerned that a military draft will be reinstated if we don't change our foreign policy quickly. Some information points that way, but some of the evidence has been misunderstood. As a result, peace and anti-draft organizations are greatly concerned, but not panicking. For political reasons it won't happen before the November election, but many people are saying a draft will be very likely in the spring of 2005. Legislation has been introduced in the US House and Senate (twin bills: S 89 and HR 163) to further that aim.

To some extent, the concern is overblown. Reports of massive strengthening of the draft agency, the Selective Service System (SSS), are misinterpreting an ongoing reality. Yes, SSS must report to Bush on March 31, 2005, that the system, which has lain dormant for decades, is ready for activation. However, this "annual performance plan" is required every year. And yes, there is a strong campaign to fill all 10,350 draft board positions and 11,070 appeals board slots nationwide, but this need arose partly because the law limits anyone's service on a draft board to 20 years, so after new draft boards were created in the early 1980s, a number of members have reached their 20-year limits and must be replaced. In short, we need to sort out the facts and distinguish the real dangers from the misunderstandings.

Nevertheless, the danger is real and growing. Bush's wars are requiring the military to extend tours of duty, keep people in the active military past the dates when they should have been released, call up tremendous numbers of National Guard and reserve members, bring inactivated troops back from the Individual Ready Reserve (the very low priority status in which troops wait out the remainder of their 8-year enlistments after they've been released from active and reserve duty), and transfer 3,600 troops from South Korea to Iraq. This is not sustainable. Troops serving in Iraq have low morale and many are refusing to reenlist. If the US military is short of people who want to be there, the U.S. may have no choice but to draft people into involuntary servitude.

Rumsfeld has predicted a "long, hard slog" in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the Bush regime has forecast that the so-called "War on Terrorism" will go on for decades.

But we can't blame this only on Bush. The Bush/Kerry contest really is not much of a factor, because while Bush is even more hawkish than Kerry, Kerry also wants a bigger military, a continued occupation of Iraq, and a "national service" requirement that is tantamount to a draft. Furthermore, the House legislation is sponsored by Charles Rangel, an African-American Democratic congressman who is generally peaceful and progressive. Rangel's concern is that the military is too black and too poor. He wants middle-class and wealthy whites to share the burden. (See critique of this in the Talking Points below.) For these political reasons, we can't vote our way out of this problem. Our best way to avoid a draft is to demand a peaceful foreign policy so we'll need fewer troops.

In 1980 (after the USSR invaded Afghanistan) Democratic President Jimmy Carter wanted to look tough to protect himself politically from hawkish Republican candidate Ronald Reagan, so Carter imposed draft registration for the first time since 1975. Locally, some anti-draft folks created the Thurston County Draft Counseling Center (TCDCC) to help people protect their rights. (For more information about the draft – and about getting out of the military – contact TCDCC through Glen Anderson at (360) 491-9093 or glen@olywa.net .)

The Center on Conscience and War (www.nisbco.org) produced the two clusters of information and Talking Points shown below. The first cluster (Draft and Conscientious Objection) is intended for persons who oppose the draft and are sympathetic toward conscientious objection. The second cluster (Conscription: Curbing Freedom) is intended to help us communicate with conservatives who might be inclined to support the draft. Let's use these to help us talk with different kinds of people.

### *Draft and Conscientious Objection*

"So, for the record, here is what conscientious objectors object to: We object to killing.... We object to being forced to register for war and killing, and we object to being forced to participate in the preparations for war and killing. We object to killing innocent civilians, and we object to killing soldiers...when war comes, many of us will perform peaceful alternative service. Many of us will go to jail rather than compromise deeply held beliefs. But we will not fight. We will not kill."

— Charles A. Maresca Jr., Former Associate Director of the Center on Conscience & War.

Background (Useful when addressing peace activists): Certain signs point in the direction of a military draft. U.S. troops are stretched thin across the globe with commitments in over two hundred countries. Many National Guard and Reserve units are being used for tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, and with a continual rise in casualty many are saying that they will not re-enlist. Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY), who introduced a conscription bill in order to make the Armed Services equitable, has revived his push for this bill. In the wake of another "national emergency" there will be more serious calls for the return of conscription. The rights of conscientious objectors need to be protected in the event of a military draft.

Talking Points (Useful when addressing peace activists):

·Conscientious objectors (CO) *are opposed to their participation in any kind of war and they oppose being involved in the preparations for war.*

·Conscientious objectors *are opposed to participating in the military machine in any form. In Rep. Rangel's conscription bill (H.R. 163) COs will be drafted into the military as non-combatants, and then at the "discretion of the President" they will be transferred to civilian services. This notion is unacceptable to most COs.*

·Conscription has **never** made the Armed Services more equitable - neither racially nor economically. During the draft in the Vietnam War, minorities disproportionately served on the front lines. The affluent had, and still have, the means to gain medical deferments, or to get positions that will not place them on the front lines of the battle. **The draft will never make the military an equitable force.**

·The draft has **never** acted as a deterrent to war, as some believe. While the draft was in effect, the U.S. began numerous wars. In fact, during World War I, the reason for the instatement of the draft was to ensure a steady flow of soldiers onto the battlefield.

·Rather than a draft the United States must reduce military commitments abroad, reduce the burden on National Guard and Reserve units, and seek multilateral diplomatic means for solving conflicts.

·If there is a proposal for the return of the draft, members of Congress should opt against it for the sake of liberty and religious freedom.

·Conscription will **take away** the fundamental **right to individual freedom**. It will transfer power from civil society to the state. As a result, America's youth will lose control of their destinies to the government.

·The Military's problem of troop retention will **worsen under a draft**. Retention is a problem even under an "all-volunteer" force. Under conscription, the Armed Services will be filled with people who don't want to be there.

·The "War on Terrorism" requires Elite Forces, **not mass conscripts**. To fight an elusive enemy, a mass army would be **counter-productive**.

· Conscription has **never** made the Armed Services more equitable - neither racially nor economically. Throughout the draft during Vietnam, minorities disproportionately served on the front lines. The affluent had, and still have, the means to gain medical deferments, or to get positions that will not place them on the front lines of the battle. **The draft will never make the military an equitable force**.

·The draft has **never** acted as a deterrent to war, as some believe. While the draft was in effect, the U.S. was involved in numerous wars. In fact, during the Vietnam War conscription ensured a steady flow of bodies onto the battlefield.

·Another way to avoid a draft is by **reforming recruitment tactics**. Many recruits, after joining, feel that the recruiter has deceived them. There will not be a troop retention problem if recruitment tactics are reformed.

·If there is a proposal for the return of the draft, members of Congress should **opt against** it for the sake of liberty and individual freedom.

For more information about the draft – and about getting out of the military – contact TCDCC through Glen Anderson at (360) 491-9093 or glen@olywa.net .

***Our best way to avoid a draft is to demand a peaceful foreign policy so we'll need fewer troops***

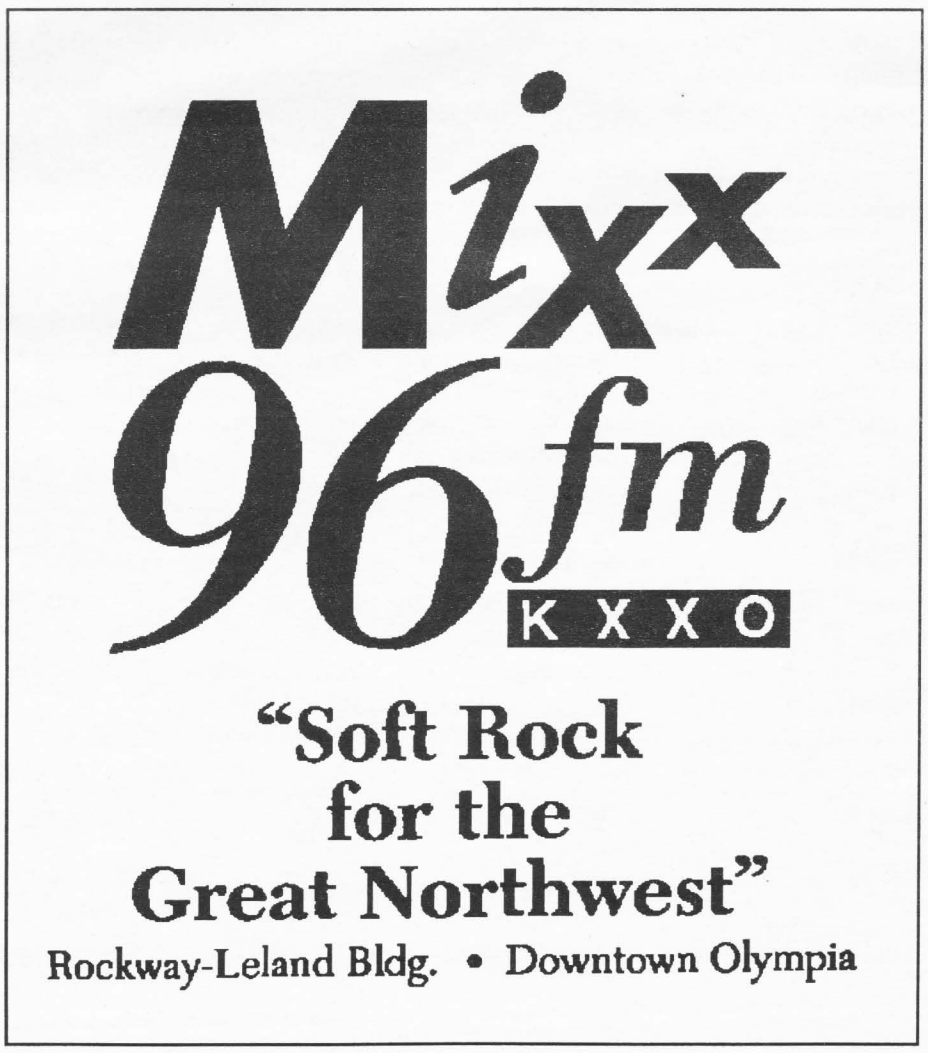
### *Conscription: Curbing Freedom*

"The most fundamental objection to draft registration is moral...a draft or draft registration destroys the very values that our society is committed to defending."

— Ronald Reagan

Background (Useful when addressing conservatives): Certain signs point in the direction of a military draft. U.S. Troops are stretched thin across the globe with commitments in hundreds of countries. Many National Guard and Reserve units are being used for tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, and with a continual rise in casualty many GIs are saying that they will not re-enlist. Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY), who introduced a conscription bill in order to make the Armed Services equitable, has revived his push for this bill. In the wake of another "national emergency" there will be more serious calls for the return of the draft. Bringing back the draft will make things worse for America, in regard to its military strength and individual freedom.

Talking Points (Useful when addressing conservatives):



# Letter to the Olympia City Council regarding the USS Olympia

By Larry Mosqueda, Ph.D.

***Those in uniform, their families, or veterans do not universally accept the idea that criticism of Bush's war machine at "a time of war" should not be done—in fact many consider dissent to be a patriotic duty.***

I have very carefully read your proposal considering the planned visit of the USS OLYMPIA, and the official letters regarding the matter and the letters and emails from the general public. I want to congratulate you on your principled, intelligent and courageous stand on this matter. The resolution is very balanced in regard to respect for the crew, the safety of the residents of Olympia and the surrounding communities, and the fiscal considerations for the city. I also want to thank all the members of the City council who respectfully listened to the concerns and evidence presented by the public at last week's meeting.

I was pleased to hear that the Navy had cancelled its planned visit of a nuclear powered submarine into the Port of Olympia. The reason given to the public was that security issues prevented the visit. If we take the Navy at its word, and there is no reason not to in this case, it validates the rationale given by the public last week and articulated by several members of the council. The new security regulations would have required a virtual shutdown of the port, both on land and sea and an unacceptable militarization of the port and the city of Olympia. The visit was ill planned and ill conceived.

I will not repeat the evidence given last week but want to address some of the emails and letters that you have received in the past week. The original letters from the local residents were supportive of your actions and then there appears to be an orchestrated attempt by AM radio talk show hosts and those who were misinformed by sound bites and incomplete wire service reports. I will not address all of these concerns but I want to address one particular issue, that safety considerations for the city of Olympia and concern about the war and militarization are somehow anti-military personnel or anti-veteran. As with much of the rhetoric from the Bush administration and its supporters ("Either you are with us or with the terrorist"), nothing could be further from the truth. Those in uniform, their families, or veterans do not universally accept the idea that criticism of Bush's war machine at "a time of war" should not be done—in fact many consider dissent to be a patriotic duty.

A few specific examples of those who are closes to the military are illustrative. The organization "Military Families Speak Out," www.mfso.org is one such group. Their website notes, "Military Families Speak Out is an organization of people who are opposed to war in Iraq and who have relatives or loved ones in the military. We were formed in November of 2002 and have contacts with military families throughout the United States, and in other countries around the world. "As people with family members and loved ones in the military, we have both a special need and a unique role to play in speaking out against war in Iraq. It is our loved ones who are, or have been, or will be on the battlefront. It is our loved ones who are risking injury and death. It is our loved ones who are returning scarred from their experiences. It is our loved ones who will have to live with the injuries and death among innocent Iraqi civilians.

"If you have family members or loved ones in the military and you are opposed to this war, join us." Surely this group supports the troops (their families) and questions the war seriously.

The group "Veterans for Peace," http://www.veteransforpeace.org is another organization that is opposed to subjecting another generation of young American to the same lies and indignities that they were subjected to. As they note, "The organization includes men and women veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, other conflicts and peacetime veterans. Our collective experience tells us wars are easy to start and hard to stop and that those hurt are often the innocent. Thus, other means of problem solving are necessary." I am an honorary member of this group and while I have polled all of them I know that they are both against the militarization of society and not anti-veteran.

"Bring Them Home Now," http://www.bringthemhomenow.org/ has active duty members, among others. As they point out, it "is a campaign of military families, veterans, active duty personnel, reservists and others opposed to the ongoing war in Iraq and galvanized to action by George W. Bush's inane and reckless challenge to armed Iraqis resisting occupation to "Bring 'em on." "Our mission is to mobilize military families, veterans, and GIs themselves to demand: an end to the occupation of Iraq and other misguided military adventures; and an immediate return of all US troops to their home duty stations. "The truth is coming out. The American public was deceived by the Bush administration about the motivation for and intent of the invasion of Iraq. It is equally apparent that the administration is stubbornly and incompetently adhering to a destructive course. Many Americans do not want our troops there. Many military families do not want our troops there. Many troops themselves do not want to be there. The overwhelming majority of Iraqis do not want US troops there." They refused to be silenced by those who say that we cannot critique the actions of a reckless administration because "we are at war."

Some of the sponsoring organizations of Bring Them Home Now, in addition to Military Families Speak Out and Veterans for Peace are:

"Citizen Soldier," http://www.citizen-soldier.org, "is a GI/veterans rights advocacy group founded during the Vietnam War. They have recently provided legal defense and public advocacy for Gulf War refusers."

"Vietnam Veterans Against the War," www.vvaw.org, (VVAW) "is a national veterans' organization that was founded in New York City in 1967 after six Vietnam vets marched together in a peace demonstration. 'We will do all we can to prevent another generation from being put through a similar tragedy and we will continue to demand dignity and respect for veterans of all eras."

"Veterans Against Iraq War," http://www.vaiw.org/vet/index.phpis, "is a coalition of American veterans who support our troops but oppose war with Iraq or any other nation that does not pose a clear and present danger to our people and nation."

"Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation," http://vvaf.org, (VVAF) is "an international humanitarian organization that addresses the causes, conduct and consequences of war through programs of advocacy and service for victims of conflict around the world."

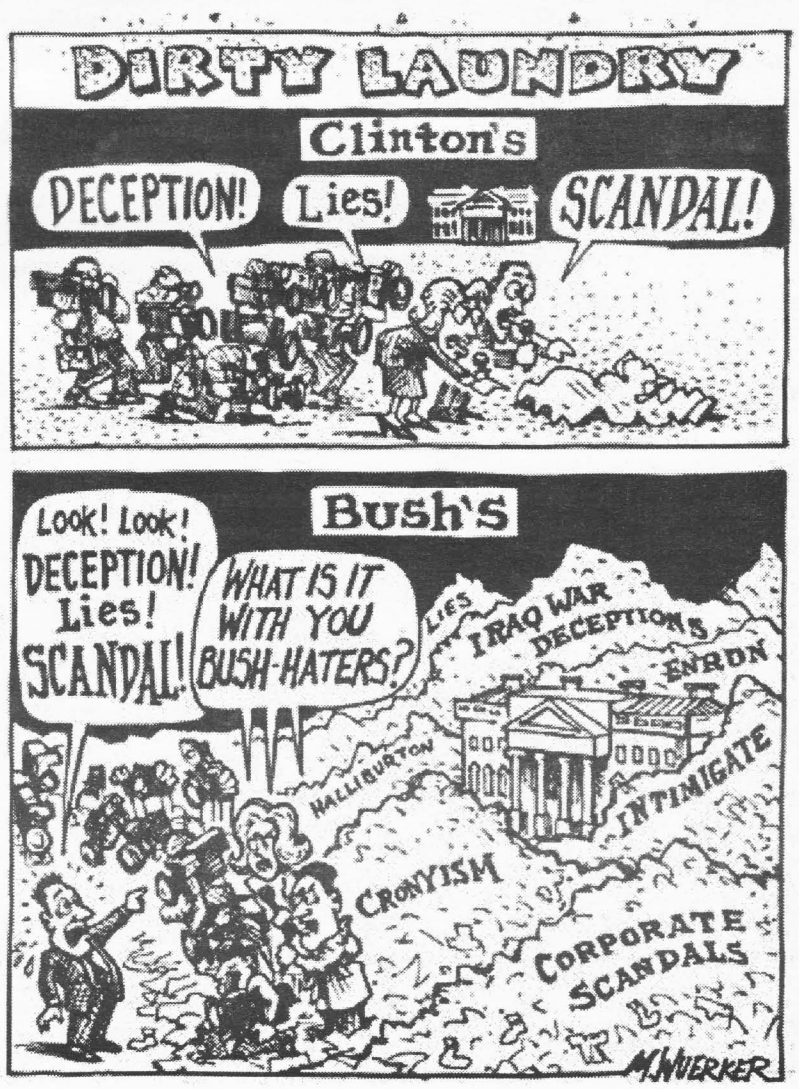
"Veterans for Common Sense" is one of the best sources of information on the current war. They are located at http://www.veteransforcommonsense.org. "In August 2002, recognizing the U.S. could be moving toward war against Iraq, several Gulf War combat veterans became concerned and then met to discuss these troubling developments. They agreed the experienced voice of Gulf War veterans was absent from the debate. They also agreed to form an organization so the concerns of veterans would be raised and discussed in public before the bullets started flying again."

"The National Gulf Veterans and Families Association," http://www.ngvfa.com, "is an organization for British veterans of the 1991 Gulf War, and now the invasion of Iraq, 'to provide immediate and ongoing support to those persons who are, or have been, suffering medical or psychiatric disorders since their service in the Persian Gulf Conflict 1991 & 2003, to secure and enhance their quality of life and assist in prevention of repeat events." Bush's ally may be Tony Blair, but that does not necessarily include the British people or their veterans.

"The National Gulf Resource Center," http://www.ngwrc.org, "is an international coalition of advocates and organizations providing a resource for information, support, and referrals for all those concerned with the complexities of Persian Gulf War issues, especially Gulf War illnesses and those held prisoner or missing in action." They are especially concerned about they impact of depleted uranium and the dangers of nuclear radiation on our own troops.

There are many other groups and think tanks that include veterans and others that, again while I have not polled their membership, would question the need for a nuclear powered and weapons equipped submarine to visit a port that would primarily be a public relation event that is risky, unwise, and unnecessary. These groups, like the veteran groups listed above, could not rationally be considered anti-troop, anti-veteran or other forms of slander that some of your critics have hurled at you as you perform your elected duty to safeguard the citizens of Olympia. As I and others said last week, and as was stated by members of the city council, the crew of the USS OLYMPIA is welcome to visit the city but we need to be vigilant that we are not used for political purposes to support a failing, unpopular, and unnecessary war. We could examine who is really hurting the troops and veterans with Bush's cutbacks for veterans' hospitals, etc., but that is another (but related) discussion for another day.

Again thank you for protecting the interests of the people of the region.




Copyright by Matt Wuerker.

# Resisting Empire: The Global Network Meets in Maine

By Holly Gwinn Graham

Earth Day weekend in April was a busy time everywhere. More than a million women marched in DC to support women's reproductive rights! Olympia celebrated the 10th Annual Procession of the Species (first one I've missed). And in Portland, Maine, people from 10 countries and 20 states attended the annual meeting of The Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space.

The organization brought me there to sing about the issues for them as I have since 1997, when, in Cape Canaveral, Florida, scientists and citizens tried to stop the Saturn probe powered by 72 pounds of plutonium, Cassini, eventually launched by NASA.

These days, The Global Network is working to alert the world and the citizens of the United States of Amnesia (thank you, Gore Vidal) to the connection of US global military operations to global corporations, especially the arms industry. Systems like Theatre Missile Defense, or "Star Wars", are aimed to gain global dominance by the American war machine.

Maine's high unemployment rate has made people sensitive about challenging BIW, which employs thousands. The protesters, many from Maine's peace and justice community, are asking Bath Iron Works to *convert* from building offensive weapon systems with taxpayer dollars to creating jobs that are socially and environmentally beneficial.

In an open letter to Bath Iron Works, Bruce Gagnon, director of the Global Network, urged the community at large to "become advocates for a new foreign policy that does not make our number one industrial export weapons of destruction." As he so rightly put it, "the soul of America is on the line". Before we marched, the crowd joined me in the song "Love Will Lead Us", dedicated to the Plowshares nuns who are serving time in federal prisons for their symbolic action at a nuclear silo base in Colorado.

That evening, back in Portland's Woodfords Congregational Church, the conference heard from Dr. Craig Eisendrath, Senior Fellow of the Center for International Policy in Washington,

***"Using space to conduct wars allows the US military pre-emptive aggression with very few casualties. Treaties to keep space a commons for peace could help end new space races, and to this end Congressman Dennis Kucinich has introduced a bill in Congress."***
***Dr. Craig Eisendrath***

April 23rd in Maine was cold, gray and windy, but we boarded buses to rally and march to Bath Iron Works anyway. Why? Bath Iron Works is where Aegis destroyer and cruiser warships are built with taxpayer dollars by the world's largest weapons corporation, Lockheed Martin. Each Aegis cruiser or destroyer costs 1 to 1.2 billion dollars to build. Each is a lethal weapons system and launch pad for nuclear-capable Tomahawk cruise missiles. Both attacks on Iraq began with missiles fired from Aegis warships. The role of these ships is not to defend our shores but to forward-deploy offensive capability to protect US corporate interests and investments overseas.

Speaking at the rally, Dr. Helen Caldicott, cofounder of Nobel Prize-winning Physicians for Social Responsibility, herself a Nobel nominee, and current director of The Nuclear Policy Research Institute, echoed that theme. "Aegis is a tool of the larger *Vision for 2020* Pentagon plan for US control and domination of the Earth and space to protect corporations," she said. "Aegis destroyers, if deployed as planned in sensitive areas like Japan, South Korea and Australia, will create more tension and start a new, deadly and expensive arms race. They will unleash nuclear holocaust on the world, because Russian nuclear missiles are still aimed at US targets, as are American missiles aimed at them, all on hair-trigger alert."

DC. Under Bush, the USA abrogated the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty without consulting Congress. For this act, Eisendrath and 39 Congressmen sued Bush, but could not get one senator to sign on in this "time of tension" when they felt they should "go easy on the president."

Bush is the first president to abrogate the treaty, and Eisendrath believes he will not stop there. "The current world-ratified Treaty of Common Space declares space and the moon be kept free of land, sea or space-based weapons. Blocking the treaty for reasons like corporate plans to mine the moon, the US is blocking arm control treaties, too, in the name of Full-Spectrum Dominance of the earth. Insanity!"

"Space has been militarized for 40 years, but it has so far not been weaponized," says Eisendrath. "Using space to conduct wars allows the US military pre-emptive aggression with very few casualties. Treaties to keep space a commons for peace could help end new space races, and to this end Congressman Dennis Kucinich has introduced a bill in Congress."

"Theatre Missile Defense systems don't work. They are a gigantic giveaway to the military-industrial lobby," said Eisendrath.

Saturday began with speakers from many states and countries reporting to the conference on military and spy installations being monitored in their parts of the world. From the UK to Alaska, Australia to Germany, Colorado to Japan, Greenland to India, legs of Theatre Missile Defense and international CIA spy stations are being built or expanded to ensure US military and corporate dominance over the "have-nots". Every speaker noted the deterioration in conditions in their states or countries due to the war on terror and the continuing military buildup of the US.

As the church started filling up with folks coming to hear Dr. Caldicott's keynote address, I sang my new call and response spoken word song, "Follow the Money". It got the whole crowd singing.

Then, Dr. Helen Caldicott took the stage to alert us to the continued targeting of the US by Russian nuclear weapons trained on 2,500 American sites. If the US should launch a nuclear missile (or be suspected of launching an attack), a "Dead Hand" protection rocket would launch all Russian missiles at once. These are, like ours, first strike hydrogen bombs. The US has 5,000 missiles targeted on sites in Russia considered to be "worth something to the enemy", things like schools, universities, hospitals. They, for their part, have 40 missiles targeted on New York City, 2 for Wall Street.

Russia, in a state of upheaval since the disbanding of the Soviet Union, has limited oversight of its own nuclear systems. Dr. Caldicott told us, "Guard satellites, designed to keep mistakes from happening, only work 8 hours a day. The code words to launch retaliatory missiles are 'open the football'. Boris Yeltsin drank two bottles of vodka a day in the last days of his presidency in Russia, and nearly "opened the football" when a Norwegian satellite was launched on a US missile. There were 10 seconds left before Dead Hand when the rocket veered off-course. We were saved!" Caldicott exclaimed, but it could happen again. In fact, it has. There are some terrifying close calls documented in the annals of near-nuclear war.

"George W. Bush's antimissile defense program is a message to North Korea and other countries that the US wants a first strike capability through eliminating their deterrents. It is inevitable that threatened countries will respond with an arms buildup of their own," she warned.

Caldicott is a pediatrician. Her medical expertise provides powerful insight into the effects of nuclear war. "We are all physicians to a dying planet," she said. "Assess the leadership of the US. Look at the personality of the leader. Look at the risks. It's like a scenario from *On the Beach* (Neville Schute's chilling book from the 60s about the last days of earth after a nuclear war). Not all 6.5 billion people on earth will die after 30 seconds. They *will* all die, but they will die after days or weeks of suffering. It's a medical issue. We must teach the American people the truth. We have to plan to fix it. Americans are good, kind people...we must conserve life on the planet together. John Kerry is not going to help stop it if we don't impress on him the urgency of it."

"The media," she continued, "are fostering the end of the world. It's hard to get on the corporate media. We must teach the American people because the media won't. What are the effects of nuclear poisoning? Look at Iraq...babies with encephalitis, Cyclops, no arms, 7 times the number of birth defects, 5 times the rate of cancer, blood diseases. What does that?" she asked. "Depleted

*(continues on next page)*


The Olympia Food Co-op

The Co-op has all of your gardening needs, including seeds, organic vegetable and herb starts, organic soil, earth-friendly pest repellants, and more.

Westside Co-op
921 N. Rogers St.
754-7666
Open 9-8 daily

Eastside Co-op
3111 Pacific Ave SE
956-3870
Open 9-9 daily

Member-Owned and Collectively Managed through Consensus Decision Making

***"Theatre Missile Defense systems don't work. They are a gigantic giveaway to the military-industrial lobby."***
***Dr. Craig Eisendrath***

uranium. We suffer under a conspiracy of silence. This issue is not covered. There will be radiation-related epidemics from now until the end of time in every country onto which this country has dropped depleted uranium-coated missiles and artillery shells and bombs. American troops are dying of it, too."

"Why do we kill people? Men's traditional killing instinct is located in the reptilian brain, and it is fed by testosterone. Veterans return home full of rage. They kill their wives. They kill themselves. They cannot live with what they have done and what has been done to them. They too are victims to radiation poisoning from depleted uranium, which isn't depleted at all...it has a half-life of 4.5 billion years! Nowhere but on *Democracy Now!* Do we hear about this?!"

"There are 30,000 dead in Iraq. It is 'shock and awe' all right...the US uses weapons so deadly they are terrifying, but *what are they*? We don't know, but they chop up living bodies, sever heads, remove limbs, but don't damage buildings. We must move beyond worshipping men who kill."

"Every person has a beautiful soul that will open up when they die," Dr. Caldicott asserted. "We must grow up. I cannot believe we could turn this planet into a lump of rock like Mars. This is the ultimate medical issue: to save the creation."

Dr. Caldicott's new book, The New Nuclear Danger, can be ordered from her website, www.npri.org.

The conference continued with workshops for small groups. I attended one with Loring Wirbel, a Colorado peace activist, and Peter Singer, author of Corporate Warriors, called "Deadly Connections". It dealt with the three wars being fought today, the war on terror, the global economic war, and the war on the poor, immigrants, prisoners, women, minorities, civil liberties and the environment being waged here in America. It opened my eyes to the privatization of the military, and the outsourcing of war.

Not only was the last Iraq attack conducted using information from 50 satellites, it was conducted from "virtual bases" run by Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, etc. Kellogg, Brown and Root operate bases, too. Things the military once did are now contracted to for-profit corporations with no oversight. Dyncorp, connected with running a slave trade out of Bosnia, carries war shipments in the current occupation of Iraq.

Of course, contracts worth billions have been handed out with no competition to companies like Halliburton and Bechtel. These outsourcers in turn outsource jobs for the CIA like delivering prisoners to countries that use torture and leaving them there ("Death and Torture Flights"). The list of connections goes on and on, with no accountability, no way to trace actions, no military/civilian balance.

As we ended the conference with the general meeting on the last day, members from all over the globe spoke of their work and their dilemmas. It was inspiring to hear them, to hug them after long times apart, and to know we are in this work together. My friend Lyndis Percy of Yorkshire, who has been arrested 150 times in England, was the woman who climbed the gates of Buckingham Palace during George W. Bush's visit to the UK. She hung an American flag upside down reading "H.R.H. He is not welcome here." She was arrested again.

My friend Satomi Oba, a translator and director of Plutonium Action Hiroshima in Japan, told us about right wing elements in the Japanese government eager to please Bush. It is especially ironic that the only country in the world upon which nuclear bombs have been dropped twice would opt for nuclear energy, but such is the case. There are 52 nuclear power plants in Japan at present, and there is a growing movement against the plutonium stockpile now present in Japan that poses a threat to stability in Southeast Asia.

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has joined in partnership with the Global Network, increasing outreach by the thousands. We have our own work to do here in Washington, with the Trident nuclear submarines at Bangor posing as great a threat to world peace as the Aegis on the east coast.

In Olympia, The Fellowship of Reconciliation and the local Global Network plan to educate and do outreach concerning the issues raised under the threat of a new nuclear age. *Contact HollyGG@msn.com or Glen Anderson, Glen@olywa.net, for more information and to join in the work.*

**Traditions**
**Cafe & World Folk Art**

*"Care to know where your money goes?"*
**Support fair trade with low-income artisans and farmers and you will.**

- A center for fairly-traded products from around the world
- A cafe with good food
- A performance space for concerts, classes, forums, and more

**300 5th Ave SW, Olympia • 705-2819 •**
**www.traditionsfairtrade.com**

*"Just a splash from Heritage Fountain & Capitol Lake"*

# The United States' Contempt for the World: Bushwhacked in the Caribbean

By Randall Robinson

*President Jean-Bertrand Aristide: the democratically elected leader of Haiti who was driven from power on February 29, 2004, through a U.S. sponsored coup.*

***The United States' demand that Caricom abandon its long-held insistence on democratic principles is psychic poison to the region.***

On Feb. 29 the legally elected government of Haiti was driven from power by armed force. Its president, after being taken against his will to the Central African Republic, was given refuge in Jamaica. The Bush administration's response has been to demand that the democratic countries of the Caribbean (1) drop their call for an investigation into the ouster of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, (2) push the Aristide family out of Jamaica and the region, and (3) abandon their policy of admitting only democratically elected governments into the councils of Caricom (a multilateral organization established by the English-speaking Caribbean countries 31 years ago to promote regional cooperation).

In addition, national security adviser Condoleezza Rice has warned Caricom leaders that if one U.S. soldier is killed in Haiti, Caribbean governments will be held responsible because the Aristide family was granted sanctuary in the region. In short, the Bush administration is strong-arming the Caribbean to confer on Haiti's new "government," headed by Gerard Latortue, a legitimacy it has not earned and does not deserve. Indeed, 33 of the 39 members of the Congressional Black Caucus stayed away from a recent Washington meeting arranged by two congressmen for Latortue.

The United States' demand that Caricom abandon its long-held insistence on democratic principles is psychic poison to the region. When Eastern Europe was going through its totalitarian nightmare, when coups and despotic rule were "normal" in Central and South America, and when civil strife and dictatorship wracked much of Africa and Asia, the Caribbean steadfastly upheld its democratic traditions — and it continues to do so today.

This is because of the region's well-educated populace and the caliber of its leaders; no military thugs in business suits here. From Rhodes Scholar-Prime Minister Percival J. Patterson of Jamaica in the north, to professor-lawyer Prime Minister Ralph Gonslaves in the south (St. Vincent-Grenadines), and from the physician Prime Minister Denzil Douglas in tiny St. Kitts-Nevis to the economist Prime Minister Owen Arthur in Barbados, Caribbean heads of government understand the lessons of history. They recognize the supremacy of the ballot.

And they know that only democratic values will keep the Caribbean a zone of peace. Reinhold Niebuhr warned that man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but that man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary. Yet the United States has unleashed its venom on Caribbean governments because they have proclaimed Caricom's democratic principles to be inviolable.

Haiti was welcomed as a full member of Caricom because its people had established a democratic form of government. After the recent shattering of that democracy, Caribbean heads of government decided to maintain support for the people of Haiti but allow democratic elections to determine who will represent Haiti in the councils of Caricom. "We are the children of slaves," one Caribbean national explained. "And so, we stay away from the tyranny of the unelected. . . . If America thinks that an unelected government is fine for Haiti, when will they say that an unelected government is best for my country?"

The Bush administration, however, has been implacable. Its officials were to have come to the Caribbean in April and May to discuss, among other things, terrorism, but the administration presented Caribbean governments with an ultimatum: no recognition of Latortue, no meetings between the United States and the Caribbean leaders. Caricom reminded U.S. officials that Latortue was not elected by anyone. And so the meetings are off. Why is the unelected Latortue more important to the Bush administration than the Caribbean's 14 democratically elected governments?

Americans must speak out against their government's behavior abroad. And they must recognize that the atrocities inflicted by U.S. soldiers on Iraqi prisoners grow out of a hubris and contempt that far too many U.S. officials display when dealing with much of the rest of the world. If stable Caribbean democracies are being slapped around by America because they uphold democratic values, who is safe in this unipolar world? Certainly not the American people, who are being made targets of global rage because of these tactics.

**Randall Robinson**, foreign policy advocate and author of "Quitting America" and other works, lives in St. Kitts. He can be reached at: rr@rosro.com.

## PATRIOT ACT WATCH

# Justice Department Now Admits It Has Invoked Section 215, says ACLU

By Howard Rosenfeld

***What the Patriot Act did is make roving wiretaps available in intelligence investigations supervised by the secret intelligence court without the judicial safeguards of the criminal wiretap statute.***

**Three hundred and twenty-one (321)** cities, counties or communities, including 4 states, have declared their opposition to the Patriot Act and in support of civil liberties, as of May 21st, according to the Bill of Rights Defense Committee.

Remember last September when John Ashcroft triumphantly announced that the Justice Department had never invoked Section 215 of the Patriot Act? Turns out that was not entirely accurate.

On May 20th, the ACLU announced that the court that is handling their challenge to section 215 received a letter from the Justice Department which implies they are now using the provision.

Section 215 vastly expands the power of FBI agents to secretly obtain records and personal belongings of innocent people in the United States, including citizens and permanent residents.

"In a court hearing last November, the government argued that the ACLU's challenge should be dismissed because Section 215 had not yet been used, explained Ann Beeson, Associate Legal Director of the ACLU. But in the May 19 letter to Judge Denise Page Hood of the U.S. District Court in Detroit, a senior trial counsel in the case said that Ashcroft's announcement only covered the period between October 26, 2001 (when the law was passed) and September 18, 2003 (the date Ashcroft declared that the power had not been used)." ("Justice Department May Be Using Controversial Patriot Act Powers After All, Letter Reveals", *ACLU Press Release, May 20th, 2004, www.aclu.org)*

In April, President Bush began making speeches about the Patriot Act, in an effort to rally public support for it's renewal. The ACLU then released a point-by-point rebuttal of many points that were false and misleading – here's the skinny (from www.aclu.org):

**The President**:

"By the way, the reason I bring up the Patriot Act, it's set to expire next year. I'm starting a campaign to make it clear to members of Congress that it shouldn't expire. It shouldn't expire for the security of our country."

**The Truth**:

Less that 10 percent of the Patriot Act expires; most of the law is permanent and those portions that do sunset will not do so until December 31, 2005.

**The President**:

"And that changed, the law changed on-roving wiretaps were available for chasing down drug lords. They weren't available for chasing down terrorists, see?"

**The Truth**:

Roving wiretaps were available prior to 9/11 against drug lords and terrorists. Prior to the law, the FBI could get a roving wiretap against both when it had probable cause of crime for a wiretap eligible offense. What the Patriot Act did is make roving wiretaps available in intelligence investigations supervised by the secret intelligence court without the judicial safeguards of the criminal wiretap statute.

**The President**:

"... see, I'm not a lawyer, so it's kind of hard for me to kind of get bogged down in the law. (Applause). I'm not going to play like one, either. (Laughter.) The way I viewed it, if I can just put it in simple terms, is that one part of the FBI couldn't tell the other part of the FBI vital information because of the law. And the CIA and the FBI couldn't talk."

**The Truth**:

The CIA and the FBI could talk and did. As Janet Reno wrote in prepared testimony before the 9/11 commission, "There are simply no walls or restrictions on sharing the vast majority of counterterrorism information. There are no legal restrictions at all on the ability of the members of the intelligence community to share intelligence information with each other.

"With respect to sharing between intelligence investigators and criminal investigators, information learned as a result of a physical surveillance or from a confidential informant can be legally shared without restriction.

"While there were restrictions placed on information gathered by criminal investigators as a result of grand jury investigations or Title III wire taps, in practice they did not prove to be a serious impediment since there was very little significant information that could not be shared."

**The President**:

"Thirdly, to give you an example of what we're talking about, there's something called delayed-notification search warrants. ... We couldn't use these against terrorists [before the Patriot Act], but we could use them against gangs."

**The Truth**:

Delayed-notification, or so-called sneak-and-peek search warrants, were never limited to gangs. The circuit courts that had authorized them in limited circumstances prior to the Patriot Act did not limit the warrants to the investigation of gangs. In fact, terrorism or espionage investigators did not necessarily have to go through the criminal courts for a covert search - they could do so with even fewer safeguards against abuse by going to a top secret foreign intelligence court in Washington.

For criminal sneak-and-peek warrants, the Patriot Act added a catch-all argument for prosecutors - if notice would delay prosecution or jeopardize an investigation - which makes these secret search warrants much easier to obtain.

The president's sneak-and-peek misstatement clearly demonstrates that the Patriot Act is not limited to terrorism. In fact, many of the law's expanded authorities can clearly be used outside the war on terrorism.

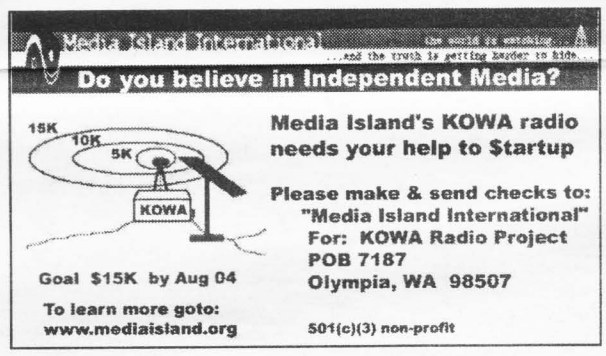
While it's entirely possible that the Justice Department may be keeping surveillance tabs on U.S. citizens, for a change, U.S. citizens are starting to keep tabs on the Justice Department. Watching Justice (www.watchingjustice.org) is a website that posts information from a large list of organizations about how the DOJ serves up justice in America. This from their website:

"Watching Justice is a non-partisan, watchdog website that monitors the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), offering regularly updated and comprehensive information to the public about how the DOJ administers justice in America. The DOJ plays a significant and singular role in shaping and enforcing the nation's policies through litigation, regulation, investigation, and implementation of laws. Watching Justice's mission is to keep a vigilant and long-term eye on Americans' fundamental rights and liberties by providing a forum for analysis, praise, and criticism of the department's actions. Watching Justice also monitors those offices in the Department of Homeland Security that were previously based in the DOJ."

You can sign up for weekly email round-up of news items pertinent to watching "justice" at their website (link above).

Summer Internship with BORDC in Massachusetts

The Bill of Rights Defense Committee in Northhampton, MA, no doubt one of the leading organizations in the U.S. organizing opposition to the Patriot Act at the grassroots level, has a summer internship available! If you want to do more than just read about opposition to the Patriot Act, check out their position description at http://www.bordc.org/summerintern and get your application to them no later than June 15th.

ENUFF!
SILENCE! CEASE YOUR CATERWAULING!! UNGRATEFUL WRETCHES!
In Contempt
YES! FINE! WE 'TORTURED' A FEW INNOCENT PEOPLE — HAVE A LITTLE PERSPECTIVE!
I GAVE YOU FREEDOM!
AIEE! THE MOSQUE!
I GAVE YOU DEMOCRACY!
I GAVE YOU NEO-LIBERAL ECONOMIC POLICIES
CAN'T YOU SEE?! WE'RE BETTER THAN YOU!
SIGH...
FINE. WHAT IF I GIVE YOU CHALABI'S HEAD ON A PIKE?
HEY!

*(from page 1: Olympia's Sister City...)*

things have gotten so bad that Abu Ahmed's family sleeps in a house down the street, and goes back to their home during the day so the army can't say it has been abandoned, and therefore demolish it.

On the phone, Abu Ahmed told me that there were three tanks parked outside his house. His home is the only one left standing in the area, although no tunnels or weapons have been found where his neighbor's homes once stood. Abu Ahmed asked about my family, and my studies, saying that some day he and Sally will come visit me in the United States. His older daughter Suzanne is pregnant with twins. She lives in the Tele Soltan neighborhood, where the invasion has hit hard. As far as I know she is okay.

In a nonviolent effort to resist the invasion of their town, several thousand peaceful protestors marched to the neighborhood of Tele Soltan on May 19. With no warning, Israeli soldiers fired missiles from helicopters, and began to shoot at the group of civilians. Eight civilians were killed in this incident, including four children. Fifty more Palestinians were injured, including ten who remain in critical condition.

As the invasion of Rafah continues, I think about all of the Palestinians I met in Rafah who want peace. I worry about the safety of my friends, and of all the civilians of Rafah. I also think about the Israelis that I met who want to live in peace, and how the invasion of Rafah affects their safety. When will the violence end?

# *Poisoning Capitol Lake:* Triclopyr Update

by David Lavender

Rob Fukai, the director of general administration of the Washington state government, has decided to use triclopyr in an effort to eradicate Eurasian Milfoil from Capitol Lake. A company called Aqua Technex will likely dump the chemical into the lake sometime this July — at a cost of $150,000 (paid for by us taxpayers).

Triclopyr, made by a subsidiary of Dow Chemical, is a chemical related to agent orange currently being used as an herbicide on golf courses, grain crops, and clear cuts to name a few. So, in addition to the multiple exposures we already experience, here is yet one more to come.

Triclopyr has been tested extensively on animals and has been shown to cause "irreversible eye damage". Extensive testing has shown kidney damage, liver damage, lethal mutations in embryos, increased breast cancer, and more just in rats (for more information check out the May issue of Works in Progress).

In early May, the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) committee, consisting of a representative from nine organizations, voted to use Renovate, a product whose active ingredient is triclopyr, on the lake— but apparently without much conviction. Some members abstained and only Laura Ware, representing the City of Olympia, came out strongly *against* the use of triclopyr.

The process used in addressing the milfoil issue has been extremely undemocratic, perhaps even breaking the general administration's own rules. According to a "Memorandum of Agreement", the seven parties comprising the CLAMP committee agreed to a set of principles which include a collaborative, "consensus decision making" process. Laura Ware's strong objection to the plan would indicate that the agreed-upon "consensus" process was *not* honored in formulating a decision.

There were also obvious conflicts of interest involved in the process, resulting in the state making decisions for the benefit of their friends in the chemical corporations and not the environment (of which *we* are a part).

With no more votes by any committees or councils, people have only themselves to stop the spraying in July.

For regular updates on this issue, tune into Free Radio Olympia, 91.3FM on Saturday nights at 6pm or contact David at 705-1971.

*(from page 3: Announcements...)*

***Our Town Square is under Siege!!!***

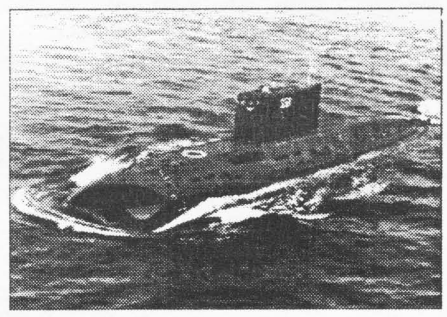
*By Gazebo Liberation Front*

Sylvester Park means many things to many people. It is the end of the Oregon Trail and the park in front of the first Territorial Capitol to tourists. Sylvester Park is also a local gathering placefor residents to socialize (i.e. share ideas and make "progress"). The gazebo in the middle of the park served as a dry spot in the winter and a stage in the summer. Until the bastards fucking put up a locked gate around it.

The locked gate is the State authority's solution to all problems. Their logic is 'throw a fence around the problem and it will be contained.' Most residents of Olympia, on the other hand, know there are alternatives to caging and fencing public places and humans. Those people need to vocalize their discontent with "The Gate™" currently occupying our park.

As of now, it takes an official State permit to have lunch for two in the gazebo. If you are offended by this bullshit, start organizing direct action now!!! Save Sylvester Park. Liberate the gazebo from its cage. Make the gazebo accessible to all people (wheelchairs included). And don't wait for some politician to permit you.

*(from page 1: The Announced Plans...)*



ous illegality of the occupation there. The military material was said to be moving toward the port by rail and by road, organized by the 833rd Transportation Battalion. Defense Freight Railway Interchange Fleet (DFRIF) rail cars are marked DODX. Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC) SDDC has contracted for Intellitrans, LLC (a joint venture with GE Capital Rail Services) to provide rail in transit visibility information and fleet management for military shipments and the DFRIF. Intellitrans is led by Richard Gerstein, Founder & CEO and Eric Streed, Managing Director, and is an Atlanta based company. They can be reached at (404)523-7474. They track the rail cars using a web-enabled database. By the time this paper hits the streets, it is expected that the world will be reading about what has happened here in the week to come.

*Visualizing Rafah*

***Community discussion concerning recent events in the Gaza Strip in Occupied Palestine.***

**Wed., June 2nd**

**7 – 8 pm : Panel and Speaker presentations**

8 – 9 pm: Q & A

Garfield Elementary School

Address: 325 Plymouth St NW

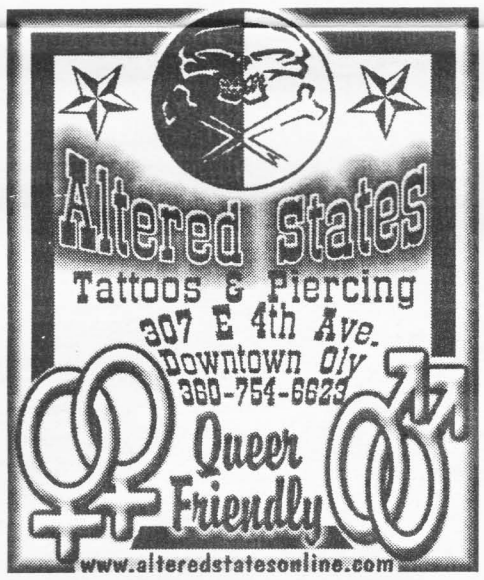
Guest lecturer: Prof Steve Niva

Speakers: Craig and Cindy Corrie

And a panel of Olympians recently returned from Palestine including: Emma Pearlman, Rochelle Gause, and Tyson Lazzaro

Event will include , a slide show and videos from Palestine, Panel discussion, audience Question and Answer period.

The event is sponsored by Olympia Rafah Sister City Project and the Rachel Corrie Foundation For Peace and Justice.



**LEGRAND C. JONES**
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Criminal Defense In Municipal and District Courts Of The Southern Puget Sound

**OLYMPIA**
203 E. 4th Ave., Suite 205
Olympia, WA 98501
(360) 352-8004

**litigate@riseup.net**

**TACOMA**
PO Box 698
Tacoma, WA 98401
(253) 552-9471

MULTI-PURE ™
Drinking Water Systems

Ever wanted a
Multi-Pure Drinking Water Filter?
If you have, OR haven't,
NOW is a GOOD TIME to INVEST.
Great Deal - $370 savings thru May 2004
Call Sandia at 866-4561 for more info.

# Overwhelming Majority Defeats Jail Bond!

By Chris Stegman

The recent $88 million bond issue to build a new 640 bed expandable regional jail in Tumwater was resoundingly defeated by a vote of 38.8% to 61.2%. In addition to building the regional jail, the bond issue would have financed four new district courtrooms at the new site and remodeled the current courtrooms and jail. The county wanted it all and they got nothing.

Why such a resounding defeat? No doubt, a lot of people just didn't want to pay the increased property taxes for the next 20 years. Many mistrusted that such an exceptionally high bond amount was the *best* solution to jail overcrowding. More important, the opposition worked hard and outspokenly urged a number of ways to reduce crowding without building a new mega-jail.

Bill Pilkey, President of Crusaders for the Mentally Ill, attended nearly every county commissioners meeting and many county committee meetings. Bill kept reminding them of their obligation to fund treatment for the mentally ill, who spend more than twice as long in jail (awaiting evaluations) as the general population. The mentally ill offenders constitute an average of 15-20 % of the jail population. Treatment does not occur in the jail.

We were also fortunate that every voter got to read both "pro" and "con" statements with rebuttals in the voters pamphlets that were sent out to every household in the county. The "con" statement was written by the members of Thurston Jail Alternatives, the opposition group that formed last November. This saved us having to raise a lot of money for a mass mailing.

We got our word out through letters to the *Olympian*, TCTV forums, KAOS and FRO appearances and KGY ads. We handed out nearly 10,000 flyers at various events and door-to-door. We produced about 200 yards signs ("Jail Bond? NO!"). We also got our views reported in many *Olympian* articles. We did all this with less than $2,500 donated by about 30 contributors.

banks and their CEOs, part of their payback for "keeping the community safe."

Their strategy was to play up the overcrowding issue with constant misinformation, misleading statistics, scare tactics about "public safety," and the threat of an ACLU lawsuit. In addition, they played on an alleged 7,500-10,000 outstanding arrest warrants with no place to put "the crooks," the "bad guys," the "felons," etc.

It was a classic campaign building upon the failed policies of the past two decades where the bi-partisan mantra was "get tough on crime." Only this time the public was wise and didn't fall for the fear-mongering rhetoric.

The problem with their strategy is that it was based on half-truths, misinformation and carefully crafted propaganda that our opposition group continuously debunked.

For example, consider the misleading jail population figures that were thrown out at random to a gullible public. In a lead op-ed piece in the *Olympian* shortly before the mail-in ballots went out, the sheriff repeated the disinformation that "the jail population often swells to over 500," when in fact the average daily population (ADP) at the jail in 2003 was 323, only slightly over its capacity of 316. However, in 2003 the work release annex, which can hold 92, had an ADP of 70, or 22% *below* capacity.

But since the 'public safety' scare tactic revolved around overcrowding, they needed to make it seem more serious than it actually is. And as we pointed out in the voters' pamphlet 'con' statement, you can't build your way out of 7,500 arrest warrants! We need better ways to assure 'accountability.' Jailing people on misdemeanors only exacerbates the problem needlessly.

The threat of an ACLU lawsuit was used continuously in newspaper articles to create fear of a "takeover" by a federal court and subsequent "loss of control"

***We found out that the "crisis" being maintained by the establishment was being maintained in favor of holding out for the "big kahuna," which came to be called the "Thurston Justice Center."***

The mega-jail supporters' group, misleadingly named "Citizens for a Responsible Jail Solution," was started out of the Thurston Chamber of Commerce, which enthusiastically supported the project. Their supporters consisted almost entirely of establishment figures, such as the Sheriff, county commissioners and staff, mayors and city council members, judges, prosecutors, Olympia Master Builders, AFSCME union (the jail staff local), bank CEOs, and prominent businessmen. Their central figurehead was none other than former Republican Secretary of State Ralph Munro. In short order, they raised over $16,000 including two $5,000 donations from local

which, from our point of view, would be a *good* thing, since it would force them to implement immediate remedies to alleviate jail crowding.

What is clear is that the forces behind the mega-jail proposal wanted to *maintain* the crowding so they could continue to justify their grandiose proposal as *the* "solution" to "overcrowding."

During the campaign we kept pointing out that over half of the people in the jail at any given moment were *awaiting trial* and that the pretrial services staff were saddled with *double* the caseloads of several years ago. The county wasn't funding the "front end" of the so-called "criminal justice" system to ensure a speedy and fair trial.

And that some judges were sentencing people to greater sentences for the same crime as other judges.

And that Sheriff's deputies were arresting and jailing people who were delinquent on paying fines for traffic violations.

And that 25% of those in jail are there for misdemeanors.

And that the county does not employ enough probation officers to allow more people to be supervised rather than left in jail.

And that the contracted lawyers for poor defendants were getting less than half the pay of private lawyers, so they were not showing up in court, and this further delayed the right to a speedy trial and was causing more people to clog the jails unnecessarily.

***Now is the time for the community to come together, pool our collective wisdom, and mobilize the public to demand positive solutions.***

And that treatment facilities for the mentally ill "offenders" were nonexistent.

And on and on.

In other words, we found out that the "crisis" being maintained by the establishment was being maintained in favor of holding out for the "big kahuna," which came to be called the "Thurston Justice Center."

Toward the end of the process in preparing the public for a vote on the bond issue – and under pressure from community activists who opposed the mega-jail scheme – the county hand-picked 13 members of the community to critique it. Although most members of the Citizen's Value Assessment Team (CVAT) approved a scaled down version of the county's proposal, the CVAT's final report was scathing in its criticism. The report addressed the need for "aggressive front end funding" of programs to reduce the jail population, the crime rate and the recidivist rate. It also pointed out the "unsustainability" of continuing to jail people at the current rate, and the responsibility of the county officials for turning this situation around. Despite these criticisms in the summer 2003 report, the county plowed ahead with its mega-jail scheme and was slow to implement its recommendations.

More than half a year after receiving the CVAT report, the county received the report from the independent consultant with whom it had contracted to study our criminal justice system. The "Alan Henry Report" recommended a number of efficiencies to reduce jail population. This report urged increased pretrial services and probation staff, full-time assigned counsel, and treatment facilities for the mentally ill among other things. These were the same recommendations that had been made seven years earlier in a 1997 report authored by the same person!!!

This most recent report came out in February of 2004, *after* the county commissioners decided to put the bond issue on the May ballot. And although officials were quick to say that they were "serious" about implementing the report recommendations, they would do so only *after* May's bond issue vote. At a public meeting Friday afternoon, Dan Krupp, a Thurston County administrator, said that the Alan Henry reports' recommendation would *not* save enough beds.

Now that the voters have resoundingly rejected the bond issue for this mismanaged boondoggle, the county government has said it will poll community members to see why the voters opposed it. We know the answers. Our task will be to intervene with the answers as the county discusses its next steps in the propaganda war.

We in Thurston Jail Alternatives want to expand the public process and include more voices in the discussion about where to go from here. And we need the support of the progressive community now more than ever to push this process forward. What we are saying, in essence, is WE NEED MORE COMMUNITY SERVICES, NOT BIGGER JAILS!

Because the jail scheme is a joint project of Thurston County and all incorporated cities within it, we urge the aroused public to press their respective city governments – in addition to the county government – to develop, fund and implement cost-effective alternatives such as treatment for persons with mental health or substance abuse problems, as well as efficiencies within the county's criminal justice system.

We also encourage a variety of cost-effective crime-reduction activities and other solutions to protect public safety and reduce the levels of systemic and cultural violence, alienation and injustice.

Unless we do this, the jail supporters might trim a few million from the original price and put it back on the ballot this fall.

Thurston Jail Alternatives' subtitle is "Together, We Can Do Better!" Now is the time for the community to come together, pool our collective wisdom, and mobilize the public to demand positive solutions.

For more information on how YOU can get involved go to www.jailalternatives.org or call Chris at 705-3528 or Glen at 491-9093. Together, we CAN do better!

# Denial is not a river in Egypt: Jail project is slated for revival

By Drew Hendricks

The striking defeat of the "Just Us" Center at the ballot box on Tuesday the 18th of May has confused our County's elected officials. Sheriff Edwards, Jail Director Karen Daniels, and Thurston County Commissioners met with several area elected officials and administrators Friday May 21st and decided that "(the proposal) didn't really fail because we don't really know why we lost the vote."

The group decided to spend $25,000 of our money to design and implement a survey of the voters to ask them why they rejected the proposed 640 bed, $104 million dollar jail. Part of the effort might include hearing from the public. No word on how much money they plan to spend on cleaning out their ear canals.

During the meeting, it was clear that Sheriff Gary Edwards is deeply troubled by the thought of being placed under the supervision of a Federal Magistrate. At one point, Edwards said "We're out of compliance in every aspect of our operation." He estimated that 140 persons would have to be released from the jail if the facility were to come under outside oversight, adding that "Once that happens, it never goes away." Community member and Thurston Jail Alternatives organizer Chris Stegman disputed his figures, saying the real number would be closer to 15 or 20.

The county is still going ahead with the environmental assessment of the project, and will soon acquire the last few acres of land they have not already bought. Until the survey is completed in about two months, no further plans were contemplated for action now, including revision of the proposal. The quote on the whiteboard was "Success is the ability to move from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm." – Winston Churchill.

The next move is likely to be a sales tax vote in the Fall, which would only require 50% +1 to pass. The County has authority to raise as much as 3/10 of 1% sales tax for its law enforcement projects. It was this funding source that was slated to make up the difference between the $88 million asked for in the Bond proposal, and the $104 million the project is supposed to cost.

**Cartridge Care Inc.**

PRINTERS, FAX, COMPUTERS & COPIERS
- QUALITY REPAIR, SALES & SERVICE
- QUICK RESPONSE ON-SITE SERVICE
- TONERS, FILM & INKJETS
- REMANUFACTURED & NEW

**360-459-8845**

THE PRINTER EXPERTS
1314 LEBANON ST SE LACEY

# Instant Runoff Voting: Moving toward a better democracy

by Drew Hendricks

Primary elections are expensive, redundant, and poorly attended. Because so few people participate in primary elections, a tiny and vocal minority controls our politics, and our country.

Most people who are registered to vote do not participate. This means that the "plurality" winner of the primary wins with a tiny fraction of the overall electorate. They often count on this fact to allow their more tightly organized base to win, especially if the majority sentiment is split between two possible candidates. This is known as the 'spoiler effect.' The party bringing fresh ideas to the table is blamed for 'spoiling' the race.

History teaches us that this election system was devised by white men who held Africans in bondage and poor whites in bonded servitude. Democracy was far from their aims; the illusion of choice was enough.

It is time to break through the illusion of choice and enact a full choice election system.

Instant Runoff Voting will replace the primary entirely, shorten the election season, save $13 million statewide each year, and finally allow elections based on policy choices rather than party names and mudslinging.

As voters rank their choices, the opposing candidates will be forced to appeal to the wide spectrum of our real opinions, rather than our fears and hatreds. They will need our second ranked choices to count in the "instant runoff" if no one wins a majority of the first ranked choices.

Please sign I-318 and volunteer at www.IRVWA.org today.

# Homophobia a Cause of Violence in Our Culture?

By Todd Denny

***Suppose instead of hockey, I decided to take up something like figure skating. Do you think my peers would have treated me differently?***

*If you think about it, calling someone a fag or gay is one of the biggest putdowns for youth today. Much as fear is at the heart of virtually all forms of violence, fear lies at the heart of homophobia as well. Homophobic and anti-gay prejudices and behaviors contribute to violence in both boys and men by demanding a constant demonstration of their heterosexuality. Homophobia dictates that one cannot simply be a man, one has to show that he is a* real *man; i.e. abrasive, tough, aggressive.*

Homophobia prevents many of us guys from being expressive of our true selves for fear our actions will be labeled as "gay". For example, I grew up playing ice hockey. But let's suppose instead of hockey, I decided to take up something like figure skating. Do you think my peers would have treated me differently? I think so and I'd bet some of that treatment would have been abusive. Fortunately I happened to have been a tall, athletic kid so I might have avoided some of the abuse — but that is not the point. It's interesting to note that in Europe figure skating for men is considered to be strong and masculine.

Being homosexual and being abused is a widespread phenomenon in our culture. If one appears to be feminine or seemingly gay. That alone is cause for abuse. One third of all teen suicides are by gay youth. Just what fraction of our teenagers is gay is unknown but gays clearly represent a disproportionate number of teen suicides. What is going on here? Is there a genetic predisposition for gay folks to want to take their own lives? I don't think so. I think it has more to do with the fears, shame and embarrassment our culture tries to associate with being gay. Homophobia hurts all of us, both gay and straight. Challenge homophobia!

# Olympia IWW Opens WINC Phone Line

By: *Marco Rosaire Rossi*

WINC
Workers' Information & Networking Center

On May 3rd, the Olympia branch of the Industrial Workers Of the World (IWW) founded its the Workers Information and Networking Center, also known as WINC. WINC, offers workers in the Thurston County area information on their rights in the workplace, unions, and other social services through a telephone line located in the Bread and Roses Advocacy Center in downtown Olympia.

"Workers need resources, and at this point in time workers need all the resources they can get," said the IWW Olympia Branch secretary Melissa Roberts.

The organization is currently staffed with live operators every Monday through Thursday 5pm to 7pm. The operators are trained to give callers update information on labor and employment rights and are working with Vince Brown, a lawyer from Columbia Legal Services to provide callers with accurate update legal information.

"One of the problems we are seeing (at Columbia Legal Services)... is that many clients who are working full time still can't meet their basic needs," Brown said. "This is a way for workers to connect to each other and to create a community around the issue."

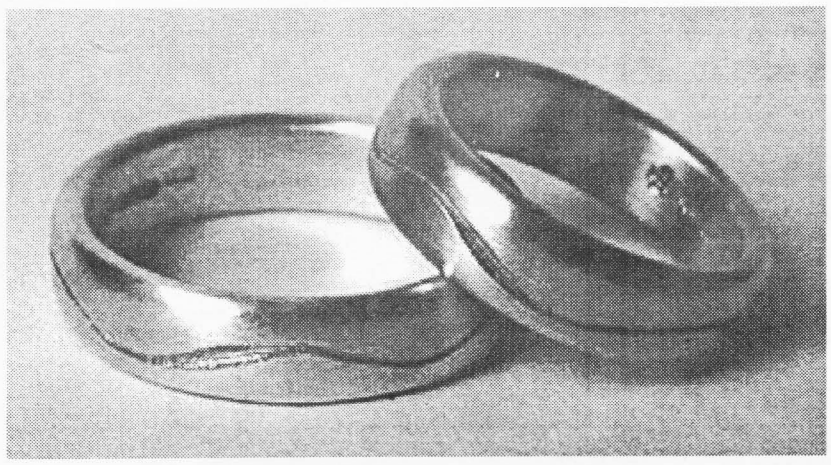
WINC was modeled after several other successful organization in and outside Olympia including the Welfare Rights Organizing Center, the Thurston County Tenants Union, and the Vermont Worker's Center. It is also working with several organization in the area including Bread and Roses, and has become part of the Coalition for Low-Income Power.

It supporters believe that a worker's rights telephone line is filling a real gap. Though there are several organizations in Thurston County that deal with low-income issues, few deal directly with the concerns of people in the work place. "That is were we can become a viable resource" Roberts said, "having a worker's resource (center) is a great addition the existing ones."

To find out more information about WINC, want to volunteer, or need to report trouble in the work place email olywinc@comcast.net or call (360) 705-0567.

# Marriage Equality; a more perfect union for all

By Anna Schlecht



*This article is the first in a series on the issues surrounding same-gender marriage.*

Progressives across the country were disappointed when the Green Party candidate for the Mayor of San Francisco lost out to the more moderate candidate. But shortly after mayor-elect Gavin Newsom took office, he set off a fire storm of civil rights activism by announcing that the City of San Francisco would begin issuing marriage certificates to same-gender couples in late February of this year.

In less than a month, nearly 4,000 same-gender marriage certificates were issued by city officials, working seven days a week to accommodate the huge numbers of couples, until shut down by the California Supreme Court. Quoted in a San Francisco paper, Newsome said that he "swore to uphold the California Constitution which clearly outlaws all forms of discrimination.... Denying basic rights to members of our community will not be tolerated." In the month of March of this year, Multnomah County of Oregon followed suit and issued nearly 3,000 same-gender marriage certificates before being ordered to stop. Smaller communities such as New Paltz, New York also entered the fray, with Mayor Jason West issuing 25 same-gender marriage certificates until he was stopped with a 19-count criminal complaint.

The issue of "Gay Marriage" leaves many leftists puzzled as to why gays and lesbians would have such zeal for an outdated tradition rife with patriarchichal flaws. Even within the gay, lesbian, bisexual, trangendered and queer communities, this issue is not embraced by all with enthusiasm. However, the profound significance this holds as a civil rights issue was underscored by the thousands of couples, many of whom drove thousands of miles for such a historic opportunity to have their relationships and families recognized. The media images of "normal" looking people lining up for same-gender marriage licenses has made a drastic impact on the polls. In both San Francisco and Portland, the long lines of couples seeking to marry gave a new face to gay civil rights while decisively throwing this issue open to debate.

Gay marriage and civil unions have become significant political issues. In the past decade, many state and local jurisdictions across the nation have enacted measures to extend domestic partner benefits to public employees and to create domestic partner registries. In January 2001, the State of Vermont made it legal for same-gender couples to enter into civil unions, the result of a legislative compromise over an effort to extend marriage equality. In accordance with the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruling that gay citizens could not be denied the same marriage rights as heterosexual citizens, the state began to issues same gender marriage certificates on May 17th.

These recent events cap 30 years of glbtq (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and queer) civil rights gains across the nation. To counter these advances, there are current efforts on the national level to codify discrimination into our Constitution in the form of an amendment that would ban same-gender marriage. In 2001 a group called Alliance for Marriage announced their proposal for a Constitutional Amendment, entitled "The Federal Marriage Amendment." The purpose of this amendment, according to the AFM, is to strengthen American families and reintegrate the role of a strong father figure. However, their primary intent is a federal ban on same-gender marriages across the nation. According to the Alliance for Family, this Amendment would add the following two sentences to our Constitution:

"Marriage in the United States shall consist only of the union of a man and a woman. Neither this Constitution or the constitution of any state, nor state or federal law, shall be construed to require that marital status or the legal incidents thereof be conferred upon unmarried couples or groups."

Historically, most amendments to the constitution were passed to protect individual liberties. Ironically, this proposed amendment would deny individual liberties, serving as an instrument of discrimination against gay and lesbian citizens who pay taxes, vote and participate in society in every other way. Under the hubris of "Family Values," the proponents of the gay marriage ban intend to preclude same-gender families from the rights and responsibilities of marriage, effectively shutting them out into the cold.

This proposed amendment has been endorsed by George Bush, who recently stated that "The sacred institution of marriage should not be redefined by a few activist judges." At least six states will have items on their fall ballots seeking to amend their state constitutions to strengthen existing bans on gay marriage and specifically ban gay marriages from other states.

In Washington State, two lawsuits have been filed to sue for the right for same-gender couples to marry, one against King County and one against the state. Supported by the Northwest Women's Law Center and the ACLU of Washington State, the suit against the state seeks a court ruling that the state laws regarding marriage shall apply without regard to gender, thus providing gay and lesbian couples the same legal rights and benefits of marriage now available to opposite-sex couples. The suit also asks the Court to recognize same-sex marriages lawfully formed in other jurisdictions.

Locally, efforts to obtain marriage licenses at Thurston County have been rebuffed. As an alternate course of action, activists have promoted resolutions in Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater and Thurston County urging these elected bodies to oppose the proposed amendment to the Constitution. Olympia and Tumwater have already adopted these measures which send a strong message to Congress and the Bush Administration while declaring a commitment to non-discrimination in local communities.

Much like other civil rights issues, marriage equality alone is not a panacea, curing all hardships faced by gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and queer people. Yet it would convey an immense package of rights and responsibilities currently denied to same-gender couples and families - -over 300 at the State level and over 1,000 at the federal level. As another step on the road to glbtq rights, winning same-gender marriage will serve as a watershed, defining a new era of equality.

NEXT MONTH: The Face of Same-Gender Marriage; Local people talk about what it means to them.

## *Thurston Marriage Equality Forum*

Marriage Equality, also known as gay marriage, is an issue that has ignited public debate across the country. Many communities are seeking ways to foster a more civil discourse on the issues surrounding marriage equality. As national events spur the debate, local opportunities to explore the issues become essential. Thurston Marriage Equality seeks to create forums for this discourse, to frame the debate in terms of basic equality and to greatly expand the percentage of local people who support marriage equality for their friends, families and neighbors. Please join us at our next forum:

Legal Marriage; Exploring the Need for Marriage Equality"

7 pm, Wednesday, June 16, 2004

St. John's Episcopal Church

19th & Capitol Way

This panel presentation features speakers addressing marriage equality from a variety of perspectives:

* Genevieve Aguilar, Field Director, ACLU of Washington

* Arthur Vaeni, Minister, Olympia Unitarian Universalist Church

* Jeff Kingsbury, Plaintiff in the ACLU lawsuit with his spouse Allen Fuller

* Jamie Pederson, Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund

* Reiko Callner, Civil Rights Activist affiliated with JACL (Japanese American Citizen's League) and other Civil Rights groups

* Anna Schlecht, Moderator

Co-Sponsors: Thurston Marriage Equality, ACLU Chapter of Thurston County, Washington State ACLU, Rainbow Center of Thurston County, Black Hills Alliance, PFLAG Olympia, Pride Foundation, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Human Rights Campaign, Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, NW Women's Law Center and others.

Free & Open to the Public * Refreshments will be served

For more information please call 252-6047, email us at:

tmeinfo@thurstonequalmarriage.org or visit us on the web at:

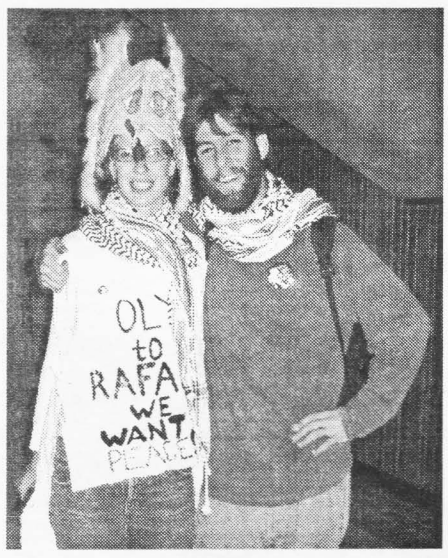
www.thurstonequalmarriage.orgend text

Rainy Day RECORD CO.
Since 1973
Celebrating 30 Years Serving Olympia!
Music New & Used • Video Rental • Incense
Skateboards • Converse Shoes
Mon-Sat 10-8pm, Sun 12-5pm Ph.357-4755
intersection of Division & Harrison on Olympia's West Side

LAST WORD BOOKS
Buy, Sell, Trade
Counter-Culture Books, Zine's, and News
119 5th ave. SE (360) 357-5255
Oly, WA 98501
lastwordbooks@yahoo.com

OLD SCHOOL Pizzeria
New York Style
PIZZA BY THE SLICE OR WHOLE PIZZA PIES!
(360) 786-9640
109 Franklin ST
Olympia, Washington

# *Update from Israel & Palestine*: Two more Oly-Activists write home




*Siouxzie Morrison and Trent Lutzke one year ago on Siouxzie's graduation day at Evergreen*

We have been very active on this side of the globe in trying to stop the destruction of Rafah. The first protest we attended (5/19) was outside Sufa checkpoint (the southernmost checkpoint in the Gaza Strip). This checkpoint leads to settler bypass roads and is only traversed by settlers and the military. The first day there were about 35 people who attended. We held signs, took pictures of the soldiers and settlers, and the Israeli activists engaged in many difficult discussions (in Hebrew) with irate and irrational settlers.

The second protest (5/21) we went to was at Kissufim checkpoint. This is the checkpoint north of Sufa and again, only for settlers and military. This time there was 1,000+ people who attended (12 packed buses from all over Israel)! We marched to a military installation, where Caterpillar bulldozers, tanks and other military vehicles were stationed. This time, not only the military was present, but also the border police, municipal police, and swat team. We first arrived to

***After about 15 minutes we eventually broke down in tears after placing our bodies in front of the bulldozer blade and confirming what we have known all along; the driver of that bulldozer did see Rachel.***

the military installation, about 100 meters before the checkpoint.

Trent and I were able to sneak into the parking area where many Caterpillar D-9 bulldozers were parked. The D-9 was the same type of bulldozer that ran over Rachel. We took many pictures and video footage. After about 15 minutes we eventually broke down in tears after placing our bodies in front of the bulldozer blade and confirming what we have known all along; the driver of that bulldozer did see Rachel. There are many windows and video cameras to view objects and people that may surround the machine. If you take one step back from the blade (2-3 ft.) you can make eye contact with the driver.

When we returned to the protest we heard several speakers, including Tom Hurndall's mother (Tom was the British activist that was shot by the military shortly after Rachel was killed). We talked to her briefly and she was enthused about the sister city project between Olympia and Rafah. We could not speak to her long because the protesters stormed the checkpoint and took it over. We ran ahead to join. Trent moved to the top of hills and kept his camera rolling the whole time. Siouxzie joined the crowd that was blocking vehicles from entering the checkpoint. Several Israeli protesters got beat up and detained by the border police. Siouxzie got pushed around a lot by the police but managed to avoid getting beaten and arrested. Later, Siouxzie climbed on top of a monstrous D-9 and made the eternal peace sign with her fingers. The protesters loved this and cheered. But the

***Several Israeli protesters got beat up and detained by the border police ... we have met awesome Israeli activists.***

border police did not and immediately ran after her. She formed the 2 minute affinity group with a lovely Israeli man and ran back into the crowd. Trent's diplomatic skills were at his best throughout the entire protest. He continually talked to the soldiers and police. They would try to ignore him and even turn their backs to him, but within a couple minutes they always turned back around to talk to him. Not shouting and yelling, but engaging in short conversations. By the end of the protest, all those who were detained were released and both of us managed to avoid getting beaten up and arrested. There were also Gush Shalom (Israeli Peace Bloc) stickers and terrorist (written in Hebrew) all over the bulldozers.

Yesterday, there was a small demo at Zion square in West Jerusalem. It started silent, with people just holding signs. Some people walking by got very aggressive and there was fear of serious violence against the protesters. Some of these violent people even threw off the kippahs of the protesters. Eventually their signs were torn up and the police came to break it up. Overall, the general mood of the public was encouraging of free speech (no matter what the topic), but also acknowledged the immense emotions in this place.

As we said in our last update, we have met awesome Israeli activists this way. Any of you who had doubts about Israelis, we have stories that will surely change your minds.

We will be sending another update, as this one is long already, but we have been doing so much that it is hard to get it all down in a concise fashion.

Peace, Salaam, Shalom

Siouxzie & Trent

# "Just As Every Cop's a Criminal...": A Review of *The Strength of the Wolf* by Douglas Valentine

By Ron Jacobs

*Corruption, addiction and murder on a large and small scale. This is the story that Douglas Valentine chronicles in his new book* The Strength of the Wolf: The Secret History of America's War on Drugs *(Verso, 2004). Valentine, who is also the author of the definitive story of the US counterintelligence program in Vietnam known as Operation Phoenix (*The Phoenix Program*), does a thorough job of detailing the crooked and sordid history of the original US agency created to fight the so-called war on drugs. That agency, for those who don't know the history or have only known the Nixon-created Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), was the Federal Bureau of Narcotics (FBN). Created for fundamentally racist reasons, the FBN was the brainchild of Harry Anslinger—an ambitious law-and-order type guy who devoted his life to protecting America's upper classes. Anslinger built he agency based on white Americans fears and, in doing so, changed the society's perspective on drugs from one where virtually everything was legally available to one where the government tried to control every aspect of drug distribution. It is Anslinger and his agency that is responsible for America's current conception that drug abuse is a police problem and not one better left to health professionals.*

Valentine's central thesis is explained in the book's introduction. Briefly stated, it is this: "federal drug enforcement is essentially a function of national security, as that term is applied in its broadest sense: that is, not just in defending America from its foreign enemies, but preserving its traditional values of class, race and gender at home, while expanding its economic and military influence abroad." As the book delves deeper into the story of how this thesis worked out in practice, it becomes clear that this did not always mean that the big-time drug dealers got arrested. Indeed, if they had the right connections and skills (such as those skills required for assassination and those connections that might serve the counterintelligence capabilities of the US), not only were these men not arrested; they were protected in all their enterprises, legal and otherwise.

It's a tawdry to downright demonic story that comes out in these pages. From questions about the role of big time heroin manufacturers and traffickers in the subversion of governments and democratic movements to stories about MKULTRA (a secret program developed by the CIA to find drugs to use in brainwashing) LSD experiments on unsuspecting citizens, this book makes it clear that nothing is as it seems in the "war on drugs." For those who fight battles in this war on a daily basis, be they cops or users, this is not news. The depth of the deception and inhumanity may be, however. The more one reads of Valentine's work, the more it becomes clear that honest agents and cops have little place in this business. More than once, the reader is provided with the story of an agent's years of hard work setting up and tracking a big-time trafficker being blown or destroyed some

***What is remarkable about this story is that it holds surprises even for those who consider themselves hardened to the realities of government skullduggery***

other way because of that trafficker's connections and use to the national security state.

What is remarkable about this story is that it holds surprises even for those who consider themselves hardened to the realities of government skullduggery. For example, the government's complicity with various Mafia bosses and their Cuban cohorts make it all but inevitable for questions to be raised about the intelligence community's involvement in the JFK assassination. In addition, there are several passages that raise the issue of Israel's role in international drug smuggling since before its inception in 1948—an involvement, which Valentine believes, continues under the aegis of the Israeli intelligence agency, Mossad. Of course, this makes perfect sense if one considers the history of US intelligence "encouraging" its surrogates involved in counterrevolutionary work to use drug trafficking profits to buy guns and other weaponry. After all, US intelligence and Israeli intelligence are more than brothers in arms—they are two arms of the same body.

*The tone of* The Strength of the Wolf *is summed up best with a quote from a conversation Valentine held with FBN agent Jim Attie thirty-five years after he retired. "I'm not proud of what I did. It was a dirty job. It was a form of amorality, and to this day I feel tremendous guilt and have unending nightmares as a result of what I did as a narcotic agent." Unfortunately, Valentine's book makes it clear that many agents don't have such qualms. This history makes it abundantly clear that those who directed them certainly didn't. All of which leaves us common folk with the nightmare of their policies.*

*Encyclopedic in its scope, Valentine's book is an important and necessary story that reads like a coherent speed freak's monologue—detailed and relentless in its delivery. If nothing else,* The Strength of the Wolf *makes it abundantly clear that many members of the illegal drug business are on government payrolls and that the US "war on drugs" is really nothing more than one more front in the Empire's war on those who disagree with its plans for the planet. Furthermore, the book leaves the reader with the feeling that this front has only expanded since the end of the FBN. This book and its story certainly make one skeptical about anything the government might say or do at home and abroad. If the CIA and Mossad could help the ultra-right counterrevolutionary OAS in Algeria in an attempt to divide the anti-colonialist movement back in the 1950s, who's to say that they aren't doing something similar in Iraq?*

# *May Day event:* Labor Solidarity in Olympia

by Alice Zillah

On May 1, the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace sponsored a Labor Solidarity event at the Labor Temple. The evening was an occasion to learn more about local labor struggles and how we as the larger community can support these workers. It was also an opportunity to talk about the connections and shared goals of the labor movement and the peace and justice movement. What follows is a summary of the remarks of the event's speakers.

### *Darigold*

Billy Cooper and Scott Sullivan, from the Teamsters, spoke about the ongoing lockout at Darigold/Westfarm Foods. The lockout began on Aug 31 of 2003, after an impasse was reached in contract negotiations over key issues of job security and a health care plan. Darigold has since proposed and then rescinded a contract with a dollar rollback in wages and a two-tier wage system. Darigold has withdrawn six different contract offers after putting them on the table, leading the union to believe the negotiations are in bad faith and the real goal is to bust the union.

Another key issue was that Darigold workers had been delivering the dairy products themselves, and the company moved to contract those jobs out. The Labor Board has since found that this constituted an unfair labor practice, and there is an eight million dollar liability against the company, which it is challenging.

For the last eight months scabs have been doing the work of the union employees, and there are reports that the products have declined in quality as a result. School districts which receive Darigold products have reported "slimy globs" and mold in the milk. There have been cases of illness reported to the WA State Department of Agriculture after customers have consumed the products.

The case will go before an administrative law judge on July 6. If Darigold loses, they may pursue it all the way to the Supreme Court. Scott Sullivan proposed that the company has put so much money into fighting the union that they think they have to see it through to the bitter end. It seems the ultimate goal is that Darigold wants to become a non-union dairy.

Until the struggle is resolved and the workers are back on their jobs, the Teamsters are calling for a boycott of Darigold products and Top Food/Haggan stores, which co-produce products with Darigold.

### *Safeway / Albertson's / Fred Meyer / QFC*

Karen Kolley spoke next from Local 367 of United Food and Commercial Workers, which represents employees at Safeway, Albertson's, Fred Meyer, and QFC. She began by saying she had two words that she wanted the audience to remember: "corporate greed".

UFCW workers want affordable healthcare and no reduction in wages. After all, the companies are making record profits. Albertson's just bought a new grocery chain on the East Coast. Safeway is expanding and remodeling numerous stores, and Fred Meyer recently finished constructing another huge store in Sumner.

In addition to expanding their profit margins, the companies are trying to compete with Wal-Mart, which is entering the grocery business. Wal-Mart of course is notorious for paying its workers low wages and no benefits; in fact, one third of Wal-Mart employees in WA receive state assistance because they don't earn enough to get by otherwise.

The contract for grocery workers in Thurston County doesn't expire until September, although in other counties the contracts expire sooner. If a fair contract has not been reached by September, the employees at all of the stores will strike together.

What can we do to support them? Karen said that the first thing we can do is to give employees support when we shop at the stores. Also, let management know that you won't shop in the store unless the workers are getting a livable wage and affordable healthcare.

The second thing we can do to support the employees is to send letters and emails to the companies telling them we support a fair contract and a livable wage for the nearly 3,000 UFCW employees who live in Thurston County. Letters should also be sent to the newspapers, to the Governor, and to local elected officials.

### *Washington Federation of State Employees*

Joan Gallagher from WFSE talked about the two year organizing drive that has added 6,900 new members to the ranks of the union. WFSE now has 40,000 members in the state and has led initiatives for the shared leave program, equal pay for men and women, and against contracting out.

Up until 2002, WFSE could not negotiate anything that had to do with wages, which tied their hands in a major area of negotiation. That year, a law allowing full-scope collective bargaining was passed, and currently the union is in the midst of master contract negotiations that will address base pay and health care benefits, among other important issues.

Thus far in the negotiations the Governor's office has proposed takeaways in every major area, as well as unlimited contracting out. The union is fighting for a raise for state employees, who have received no cost of living allowance increase for four years, during which time the cost of health insurance went up 80%. The Governor's office has maintained that there are not enough funds to provide a raise, but somehow they were able to give managers and private contractors a raise last year. As Joan said, "We don't want whole pie, we just want our slice of it."

Joan emphasized the need to support strong unions in all sectors. "When you allow a de-unionization in your workforce, you transfer the costs to public services – unemployment security, welfare, basic health care plans." In other words, the taxpayers cover the costs of the safety net, skimpy as it is, that protects workers who do not get livable wages and healthcare benefits. And the company stockholders reap the increased profits.

WFSE is reaching out to the community for support in the fight for a fair contract. Joan encourages people to log on to www.wfse.org and follow the "take action" links. In addition supporters can call legislators, the Governor, and candidates for office, and tell them that we want the state to negotiate in good faith.

### *The Evergreen Labor Center*

Sarah Ryan teaches labor studies at The Evergreen State College. She was an active union member from 1984 to 1998 with the American Postal Workers Union. She spoke about the two main priorities shared by the peace movement and the labor movement: the need for strong civil liberties, and the desire to advance social justice and economic equality.

Sarah pointed out that American workers have no civil liberties on the job and even when on strike. The Supreme Court has ruled that a picket line can be limited to a "symbolic number" of people. But this denies the reality of how the labor movement historically gained ground. As Sarah said, "Please is nice, but please never worked for the labor movement. It got power because it defied court orders and physically kept people from crossing the picket lines."

During and after every war, civil liberties in this country have been restricted, and the current period is no exception. During the Vietnam War the attacks on free speech were evident by attacks against the black community, and by the Cointelpro program which kept files on 2 million Americans.

Sarah asked, "Whose war is it?" She pointed out that Olympia's cost of the war is 30 million dollars so far, according the National Priorities Project. "This is Wal-Mart's war, this is Microsoft's war, this is Real Network's war. Until we're ready to say as union members that we might have separate interests from these corporations, then we're not going to get very far."

The second aim shared by the labor and peace movements is social justice. The very existence of unions demonstrates that free market, competitive economic system don't work for working people. This is becoming increasingly dramatized as corporations become more globalized and powerful.

These natural alliances between peace and labor have been realized in the past. Sarah spoke about the Farmer Labor Party, which formed in Washington in the 1920's. Their first demand was to restore the constitutional rights which were taken away during WW1. Their second demand was to "reduce armaments", and their fifth demand was equal rights for men and women. The Farmer Labor Party received 30% of the statewide vote.

### *St. Peter's Providence Hospital*

Sharon Williams is a licensed practical nurse (LPN) at Providence St. Peter Hospital and is active in local 1199 NW of SEIU. At St. Peter the LPNs, houseworkers, and dietary workers belong to the same union. Last year a group of technicians at the hospital decided they also wanted to join the union. That's when the struggle began.

Management began a barrage of anti-union activity. Supervisors scheduled one-on-one meetings with the technicians to tell them the reasons they should not join the union. Employees who were leading the union drive found that they were called in to more meetings, and realized that some of their co-workers didn't want to be seen talking to them.

Just before the first vote the campaign intensified, and St Peters mailed videotapes to employees' homes that claimed the workers and their families would lose pay and other benefits if they voted to unionize. SEIU fought back by filing charges with the labor board, and the board found that the hospital had violated eight fair labor rules.

Sharon pointed out that the hospital was funding this anti-worker activity with patient care dollars, which should be used to keep the costs of services down.

There has not yet been a final vote, and Sharon shared some ways the community can support the technicians as they organize. She recommended that people talk to their primary care physicians, and let them know that St Peters is participating in unfair labor practices. Letters can also be sent to the Olympian to let the community know about the ongoing struggle at St Peters.

The Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace meets at 7:00 every second and third Wednesday of the month at the Olympia Community Center, located at 222 Columbia St. We welcome new people to our meetings.

www.omjp.org

VIC'S PIZZERIA

233 DIVISION ST NW (360) 943-8044
*Ana makes a lovely vegan sauce!*

Chris Stegman

(360) 705-3528
OLYMPIA PAINTING EXCHANGE
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR
OLYMPPEO09QA FREE ESTIMATES

# Letters from two Plowshares Sisters

Introduction by Holly Gwinn Graham

**Works in Progress readers will be glad to see these two new letters from Dominican Sisters and Plowshares Activists, Carol Gilbert and Ardeth Platte, serving time in federal prisons in separate states for a symbolic action at a nuclear missile silo in Colorado in 2002. I am sorry that a letter from Jackie Hudson is not here also, but will make sure to have one for the next issue. She is doing well in California, and if you care to write to Jackie, here is her address:**

*Jacqueline Hudson, OP*
#08808-039
FPC Victorville
PO Box 5100
Victorville, CA 92301

**RAMBLINGS AND REFLECTIONS FROM ARDETH PLATTE**

Newsletter 10
May, 2004

Dear Justice and Peace Friends,

My mind and heart soar to the mountain peaks and plummet to the depth of the valleys in this past month. My inner experiences stretch me beyond description. As I read Mary Jo Leddy's articles on radical gratitude, all joy and sorrow, all smiles and tears, all gifts and challenges contribute positively to my humanness.

The Mountain Peaks – my gratitude to God

1.I turned on the TV to watch and pray the morning news and there was Mordecai Vanunu walking out of prison, hands in the air flashing peace signs to the world. I was breathless seeing him free after 18 years imprisoned, mostly in solitary confinement, for revealing the truth of Israel's nuclear weapons program.

2.Carl Kabat, OMI, priest peacemaker, entered N8 Minuteman Missile silo in Colorado (our action site) on Good Friday to decry the crime of US weapon threat on high alert. He was charged in federal court in Denver for his symbolic action.

3.Alice Gerard and Betsy Lamb arrived at Danbury Prison on April 6 and are now with the 200 of us at the FPC unit. They tasted the SHU experience. Shirley Way will self-surrender on June 22. Then we three will provide the welcoming for her. They are part of the SOA Watch arrestees of Nov. 2003 calling for the closure of the Ft. Benning School of the Americas that trains Latin American military in torture and war tactics.

4.It is grand news of the hung jury in Ithaca, NY for the faithful resisters there.

5.My 68th birthday and Easter occasioned buckets of mail once again. Messages of love, peace and support galore! Then my "bunkee" announced my day on the public address system so hundreds of hugs, greetings, wishes followed and also a popcorn/soda party.

6.The summary sheet of the Washington, DC Faith and Resistance Retreat and actions reflect that the alarms are still being sounded at the Pentagon, White House and Arms Bazaars as many gathered together.

7.Peacemakers are before the courts and still being imprisoned for civil resistance at nuclear sites and war sites all over the country and world. Joy indeed!

8.Spring is bursting out all around us...birds bellowing, buds blooming, grass greening, and trees stretching their reds, yellows and greens across the landscape. Awesome!

9.Our Triduum Days: Holy Thursday – a Mass with guitar music and great homilist. Good Friday – we surrounded an implanted cross out of doors, processing to it with symbols reminding us of the passion of Jesus. We sang, read the passion when the sky darkened, the clouds broke open with an intense rainfall. Some began to scatter for shelter when Sister Raftery, prison chaplain, said, "I think the rain will pass while I share some reflections." The storm lifted, the sun shone and stayed. A typical Good Friday image! On Holy Saturday, since nothing was planned we had our own service of blessing fire, water and bread, led by Betsy. (This is the first in our Saturday evening scripture study.) On Easter Sunday we joined in a sunrise service outside and a Mass in the evening. It doesn't get any better than this in any of my other incarcerations. This has to be the fruit of your prayers.

The Valley Depths – my gratitude to God

1.News of the deaths of my friends, mentors, companions on the journey, peace/justice makers: Lou Oates – Presente! George Wilson – Presente! Bishop Ken Untener–Presente! Saginaw, MI and all of us who have worked in the Church, in education, in political life, in direct action with these gentle, courageous, forthright, truth-telling, dedicated men hold memories too numerous to record. We thank God for their example.

2.The terror of "war on terrorism" escalates the terror to nation upon nation. The brutality of war is more evident in the hand to hand combat on the ground, the suicide bombings, the psychological effects of fear, the long-range effects and suffering from depleted uranium (an illegal usage), economic disaster in waste of money and resources, and human lives – so filled with potential, so sacred in creation – snuffed out and maimed.

***An Effort to Be a Resurrection People***

This is the time for all-out nonviolent civil-resistance. When citizens do civil resistance we uphold the international laws of the land, the laws of war. We obey the terms of treaties, world court opinions, the UN Charter, Nuremberg, Geneva, Hague, International Court of Justice. These laws have been incorporated into the Constitution. We resist the crimes of the governmental leaders. We do intentional, nonviolent, symbolic, public actions to stop war. There is no just war. There is intentional killing of civilians every time a bomb is dropped. Why pretend it is accidental? The courts in collusion with the executives and legislators may call our actions civil disobedience, but in good faith we are not being disobedient. War-makers commit the war crimes and break a body of laws in wartime. We yearn to hold them accountable.

Once again I thank you for your gift of books (I'll list them next month), news, letters, cards, prayers, friendship, and for sending letters for me.

Next month I will share with you an update on our appeal to the 10th Circuit Court.

Always grateful,

Ardeth Platte # 10857-039
Federal Correctional Institution
33 ½ Pembroke Station
Danbury, CT 06811

"The greatest challenge of the day is how to bring about a revolution of the heart"

*Dorothy Day*

**Letter from Carol Gilbert**

**PONDERINGS FROM THE ETERNAL NOW**

MAY 2004 #10

Dearest Friends,

This isn't the letter I was expecting to send you this month but sometimes something so horrendous comes along it must take precedence. Such is the following story.

In reading my May issue of "Harper's Magazine", I came upon a small piece of interviews conducted by Human Rights Watch researchers in Pakistan and Vivian White, a reporter for the BBC, with recently released prisoners of Camp X-Ray, the U.S. detention center at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

I was not shocked at the use of tape, cuffs, gas, chains, cages, bright lights, noise, beatings, sleep deprivation and painful positions. What did horrify me were the "injections" and the "pills".

·*"They injected me. I was unconscious."* A. Khan

·*"They gave us pills that made us feel numb or made us drunk."* K.M.

·*The other method that the guards used to make us quiet was injections. Guards would enter the cell with sticks and masks and two or three of them would hold a prisoner while one of them injected him in any part of his body. Immediately after the injection, the person would faint. Then he was put into isolation. Twice they injected me and took me to the isolation room, a dark room with cold air blowing."* A.K.

·*"Other countries torture prisoners with electric shocks, but they tortured me with injections. After I received an injection, my eyes would remain fixed upwards, and my muscles would get stiff. I would stay like that for a day and sometimes longer, until I was given another injection, which would relax me, and then I could move my eyes and muscles again. Sometimes they would give me pills after the first injection. I saw other prisoners receive injections as well."* S.M.A.

According to the article the U.S. is currently holding about 650 suspects at Guantanamo Bay. These interviews don't sound that different to me than the Nazi experiments. I reflect on the Chinese proverb: ***" To know what is going on takes sense: to know what to do about it takes wisdom."*** **What do we do with this burden of knowing?**

Spring has arrived in all its glory at Alderson. We are in awe as we watch the birds build their nests and smell the lilacs and honeysuckle. The mountains are alive with various shades of green as the trees burst forth. As I write this, I've just seen two Baltimore orioles in one of the huge pines outside the recreation building.

Our population of 1,028 women saw 200 of us sign up for garden plots – two to a plot. We have ordered the seeds and wait our planting date.

Deep gratitude must go to our team of lawyers who have worked tirelessly with no pay on an appeal these past months. It was submitted on April 30th.

Again, I send my deepest gratitude to each of you. No one from the S.O. A. (School of the Americas) is coming here and so I sit with the silence and the stillness of within.

I'll close with these words from Historian Howard Zinn, which express our Eternal Now:

*"To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, and kindness. And if we do act, in however small a way, we don't have to wait for some grand, utopian future.*

The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory."

P.S. For those who ask about my work, I've been dubbed "The Bathroom Queen Cleaning Lady!"

With deep love,

*Carol*
Sister Carol Gilbert, OP
#10856-039
R1 Federal Prison Camp, P.O. Box A
Alderson, WV 24910

Note: If you would like to receive future copies of these letters by e-mail, you can send your e-mail address to mcasper@mindspring.com

Thanks to all who are spreading the word by forwarding the newsletters to others! Also, Jonah House has a new website: www.jonahhouse.org. Past copies of the newsletters are posted there as well as updates on other actions.

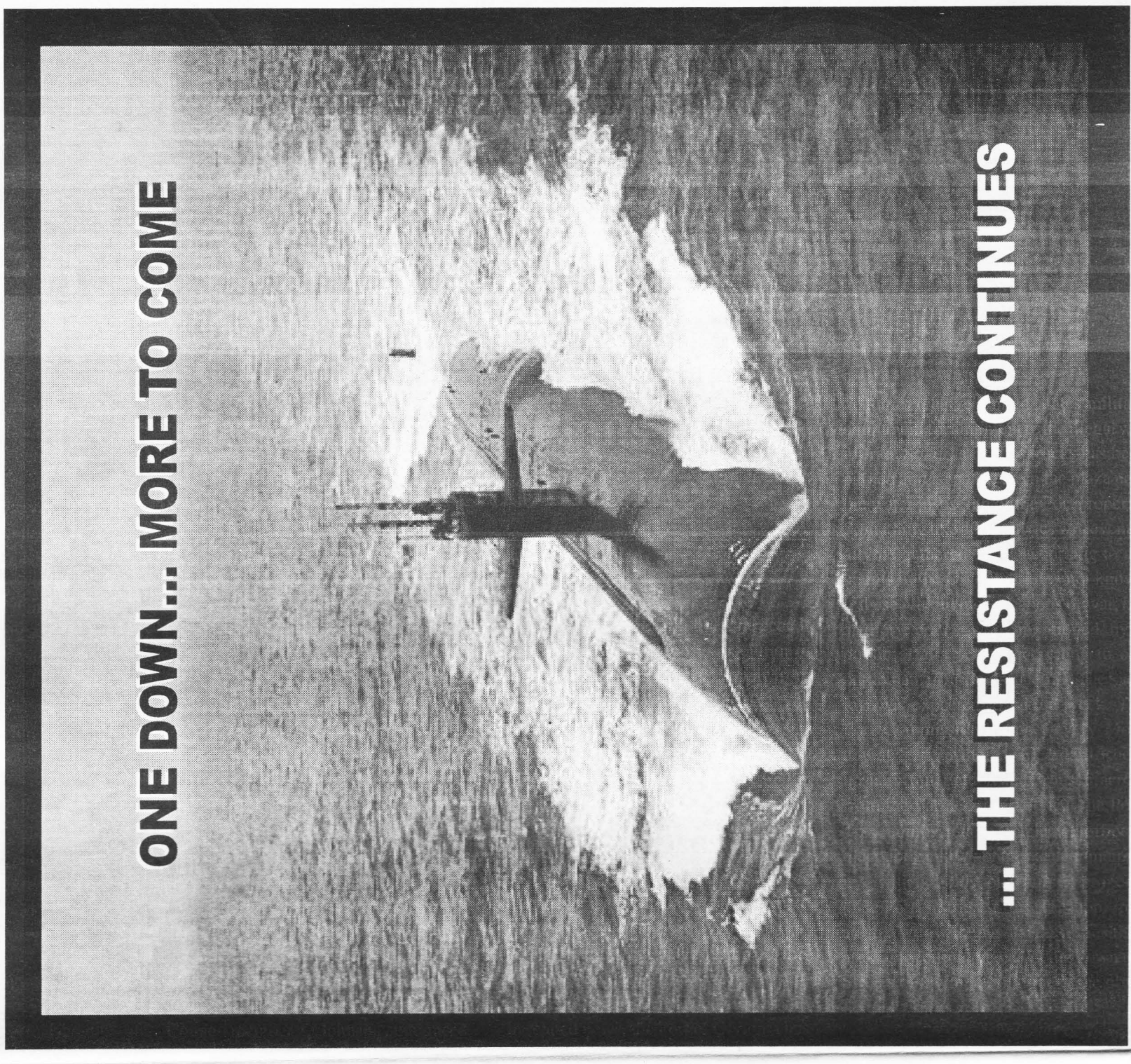
TRUTH ABOUT WAR TAKEN HERE

W.I.P. WORKS IN PROGRESS

JUNE 2004 FREE

# WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 15 NO. 2




## CONTENT

**1** **Announced Plans for Nuclear Sub** - *By Drew Hendricks*

**OMJP statement to City Council on USS Olympia**

**Olympia's Sister City under attack!** - *By Emma Pearlman*

**4** **Opposing the Draft** - *By Glen Anderson*

**5** **Letter to the Olympia City Council** - *By Larry Mosqueda*

**6** **Resisting Empire** - *By Holly Gwinn Graham*

**7** **The United States' Contempt for the World** - *By Randall Robinson*

**8** **Patriot Act Watch** - *By Howard Rosenfeld*

**9** **Poisoning Capitol Lake: Triclopyr Update** - *By David Lavender*

**10** **Overwhelming majority defeats jail Bond** - *By Chris Stegman*

**11** **Denial is not a river: Jail project is slated for revival** - *By Drew Hendricks*

**Homophobia: cause of violence in our culture?** - *By Todd Denny*

**Olympia IWW opens WINC** - *By Marco Rossi*

**12** **Marriage Equality** - *By Anna Schelct*

**13** **Update from Israel and Palestine: Two more Oly Activists write home** - *By Siouxzie and Trent*

**Review of "Strenght of the Wolf" by D. Valentine-** *By Ron Jacobs*

**14** **May Day Event: Labor Solidarity in Olympia** - *By Alice Zillah*

**15** **Letters from two Plowshares Sisters**

Copyright by Matt Wuerker.

**WORKS IN PROGRESS**
PO Box 295
Olympia, WA 98507